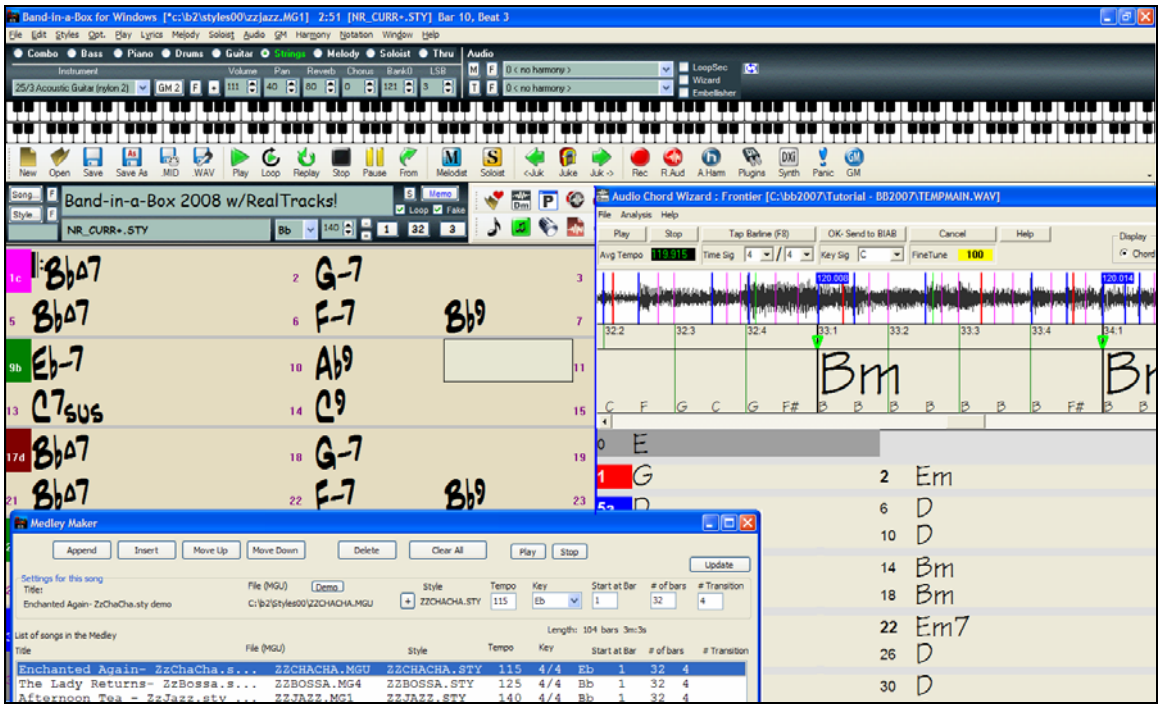
BAND-IN-A-BOX®

Version 2008 for Windows®



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PATENTS

Band-in-a-Box is protected under US Patent 5990407. The TC-Helicon Harmony feature in Band-in-a-Box and PowerTracks Pro Audio is protected under US Patents 5567901, 5641926, 5986198, 34583, 296.80.173.9, PI9603819.5, 0368046, 0750776, 6,046,395, and patents pending.

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Chapter 1: Introduction

This documentation covers the new features in Band-in-a-Box Version 2008.

- Chapter 2 is a summary of the new features.
- Chapter 3 is a QuickStart Tutorial.
- Chapters 4 -12 describe the new features in detail.

Band-in-a-Box 2008 is here with over **50 cool new features!**

There are some exciting new features in Band-in-a-Box. We've added **RealTracks** - these are audio instruments that replace the MIDI track with actual recordings of top studio Jazz/Rock/Country musicians! These are not "samples" of single instrument hits; they are full recordings, lasting from 1 to 8 bars at a time, playing along in perfect sync with the other Band-in-a-Box tracks. We've made the following RealTracks – **RealPedalSteel**, **RealSax**, and **RealAcousticGuitar** – with more on the way. For example, choose a Country MIDI style that includes RealPedalSteel, and you will now hear a studio pedal steel player, exactly as you'd hear if he was in the room with you. The results are **dramatically better than MIDI**. They sound like real musicians, because **they *are* recordings of real musician**s. And we've added **MultiStyles** to Band-in-a-Box. No longer are you limited to 2 substyles, styles can now have up to 24 substyles in a song, easily selectable using letters A to 'x'. Our newest styles sets are now MultiStyles, typically with 4 substyles per song (First Verse, Verse, Chorus, and Break) or easily make your own**.** And we've made big *improvements* to the amazing "**Chords from MP3**" feature (**Audio Chord Wizard**). This feature automatically **figures out the chords from any MP3, WAV, or WMA audio file**, and displays them in Band-in-a-Box. We've added a Chord Sheet window to the Audio Chord Wizard, so you can see the whole song at a glance, and jump around to where you want by clicking on the chord sheet. Other Audio Chord Wizard improvements include part markers, section paragraphs (to align new sections to a new line), chord editing and more. **Change key signatures** at any bar. **GUI has been enhanced** - support for Windows themes, section paragraphs, drag-and-drop copying of sections or selected regions. Load **Karaoke MP3/CDG** files to see scrolling Karaoke lyrics in the CDG Window. Use the **Medley Maker** to quickly make a medley of your favorite songs, including automatically generated transition chords/bars between the medleys to smooth out transition between styles, tempos, and keys. RealDrums have been enhanced, with **RealDrums style changes at any bar**, RealDrums intelligent menu in StylePicker, support for **multiple Artists** playing same-named style, **"Cycling"** through new drum grooves every part marker. StylePicker is enhanced, and auto-scans your BB folder to find any styles that you have made or added. And many more!

Chapter 2: Summary of New Features

Band-in-a-Box 2008

The new features in **Band-in-a-Box 2008 for Windows** are...

RealTracks

With the previous release of Band-in-a-Box, we added RealDrums. Now we've added three additional "Real" instruments, including Real Pedal Steel, Real Acoustic Guitar, and Tenor Sax soloing (RealSax). These tracks replace the MIDI track for that instrument, and can be controlled just like the MIDI instrument (volume changes, muting etc.). Best of all, they follow the chord progression that you have entered, so that you hear an authentic audio accompaniment to your song. These are not "samples," but are full recordings, lasting from 1 to 8 bars at a time, playing along in perfect sync with the other Band-in-a-Box tracks. RealTracks can be built in to the style, replacing the Bass, Guitar, Piano, or Strings part, or they can be generated to the Soloist (or Melody) track using the Soloist feature.

MultiStyles

We've added MultiStyles to Band-in-a-Box. These are styles that can have up to 24 substyles! Previous Band-in-a-Box styles had 2 substyles (A and B). Now, for example, a MultiStyle with 4 substyles (First Verse, Verse, Chorus, Break) can be used, and you select the various sections using a/b/c/d part markers. Our newest styles sets are MultiStyles, typically with 4 substyles, but some Techno styles have 24 substyles. You can easily make your own MultiStyles, either from scratch, or combining parts from existing styles to make a MultiStyle. For example, if you have 10 favorite Country styles, you can quickly make a single MultiStyle that has 20 substyles available within the same song.

Medley Maker

Would you like to make a medley of various Band-in-a-Box songs (MGU) using Band-in-a-Box? This is easily done with the new Medley Maker. Inside the Medley Maker, simply select the songs that you want, and Band-in-a-Box will make the medley for you. A medley is not simply joining songs together. A good medley uses a "transition" area between songs, to introduce the new style, key, and tempo. The Medley Maker automatically creates a nice transition area for you, writing in chords that would smoothly modulate to the next song, style, key, and tempo!

Audio Chord Wizard Enhancements

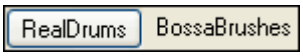
The Audio Chord Wizard is the amazing feature that automatically figures out the chords from MP3 files (or other audio files like WAV, WMA, and audio CD etc.). Using the Audio Chord Wizard is a great way to learn and practice popular songs as you play along and see the chords.

We've added a Chord Sheet window in the Audio Chord Wizard that shows the chords for the whole song on a single screen. This allows you to click on a bar on the chord sheet to jump to that area of the song.

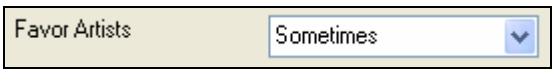
You can mark sections of the song using part markers, and the sections will begin on a new line with a line space between so they are clearly seen. So you can then also learn the form of the song, as you can see the various sections (intro/verse/chorus/break) at a glance, or quickly jump to the any section simply by double clicking on that part of the chord sheet.

RealDrums Enhancements

The RealDrums feature replaces MIDI drums with audio drums.

- 

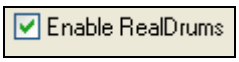
You can now have style changes - multiple RealDrums styles within a song - either using the RealDrums from a Band-in-a-Box style or specifying a specific RealDrums style to use at a bar.

- 

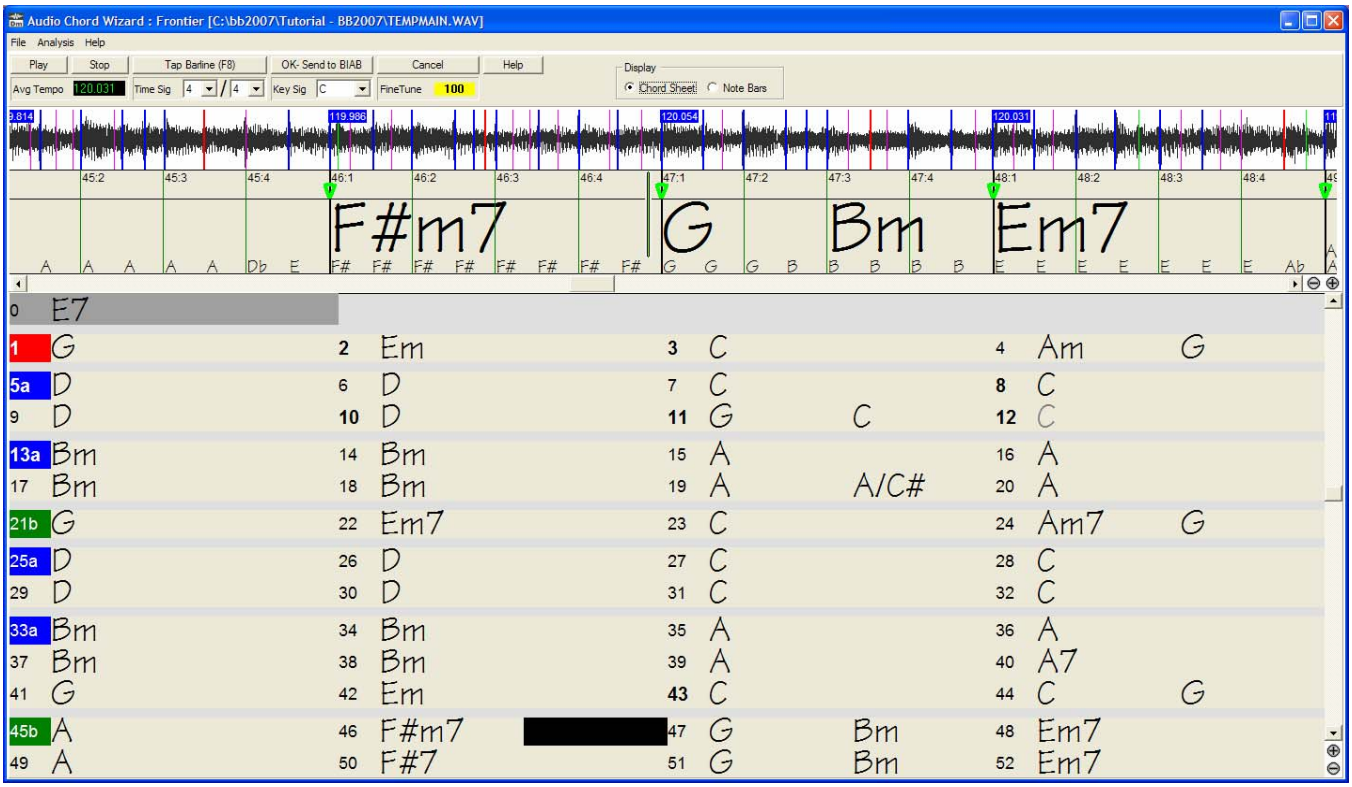
We have "artist" support. This allows you to choose among different drummers playing the same style. For example, we have multiple artists playing the "JazzBrushes" style. You can set Band-in-a-Box to choose a different artist with each play, or always choose a specific artist.

-

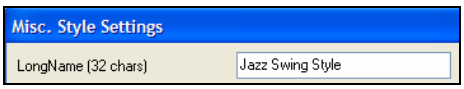
You can now select RealDrums styles within the StylePicker. Highlight a MIDI style that you like, and press the RealDrums **[Best]** button, to see a list of the most compatible RealDrums styles for that style, or the **[RealDrums]** button to select from all available RealDrums.

- 

There is also a hot key combination to turn RealDrums on/off (**Ctrl+Shift+F6**). This also works while the song is playing.

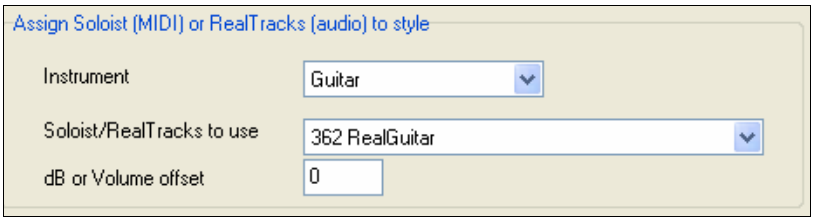

Audio Chord Wizard : Frontier [C:\bb2007\Tutorial - BB2007\TEMPMAIN.WAV]
File Analysis Help
Play Stop Tap Barline (F8) OK- Send to BIAB Cancel Help
Avg Tempo 120.031 Time Sig 4 / 4 Key Sig C FineTune 100
Display
Chord Sheet
Note Bars
F#m7 G Bm Em7
0 E7
1 G 2 Em 3 C 4 Am G
5a D 6 D 7 C 8 C
9 D 10 D 11 G C 12 C
13a Bm 14 Bm 15 A 16 A
17 Bm 18 Bm 19 A A/C# 20 A
21b G 22 Em7 23 C 24 Am7 G
25a D 26 D 27 C 28 C
29 D 30 D 31 C 32 C
33a Bm 34 Bm 35 A 36 A
37 Bm 38 Bm 39 A 40 A7
41 G 42 Em 43 C 44 C G
45b A 46 F#m7 47 G Bm 48 Em7
49 A 50 F#7 51 G Bm 52 Em7

StyleMaker Enhancements.

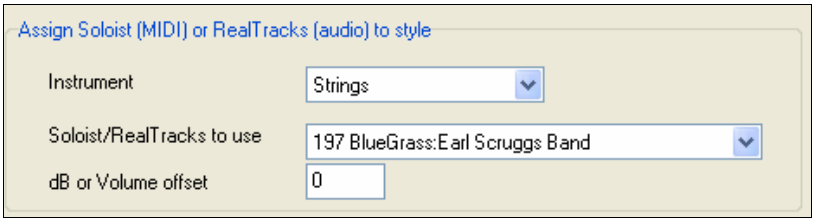
- 

Long Style Name can be stored in the style (up to 32 characters), and this will appear on screen and in StylePicker.

- Style Log options. For people making styles, this text files shows exactly which pattern was used in the song generation for every instrument and bar/beat. Useful in fixing errant patterns.

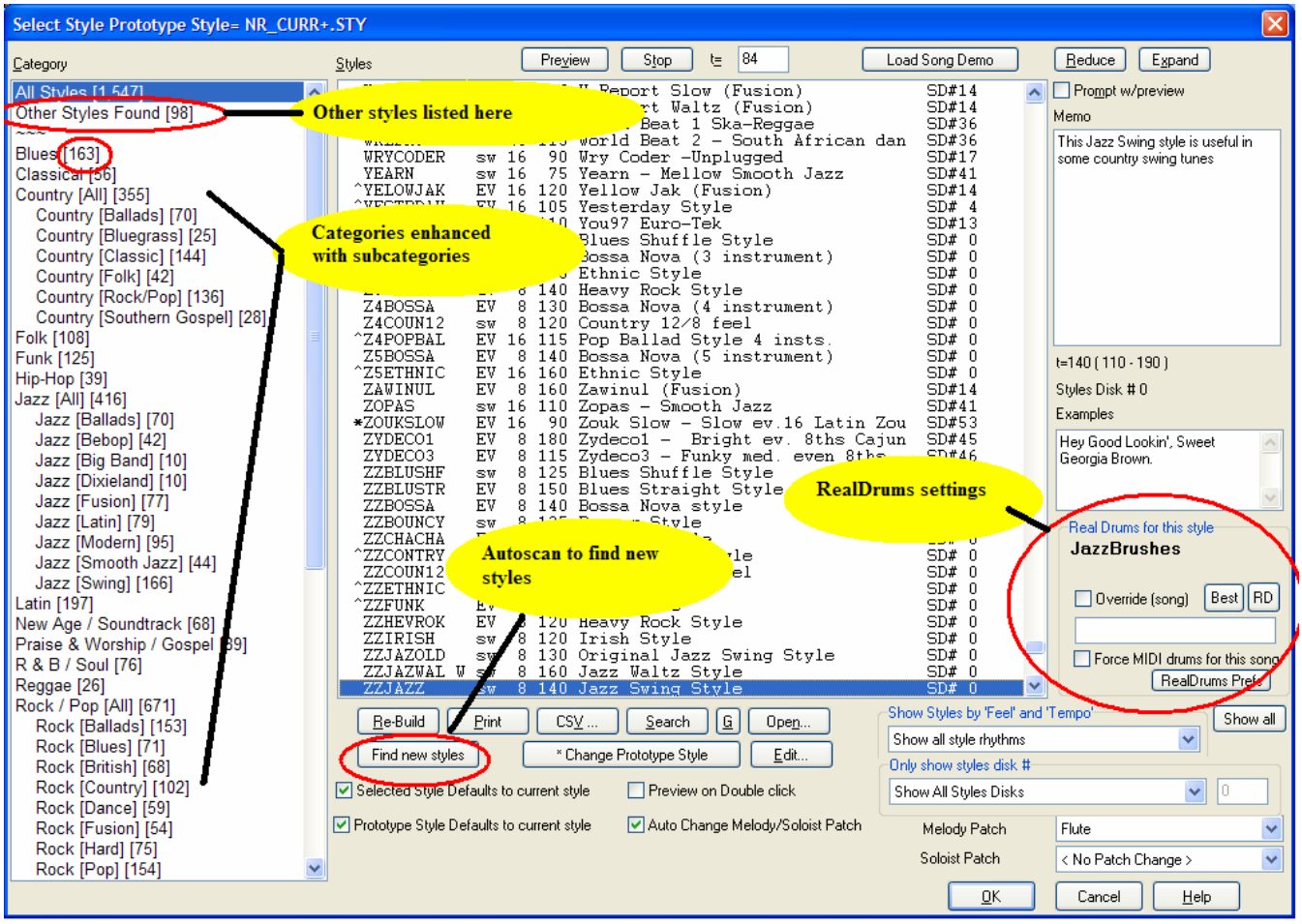


- Styles can now contain RealTracks.



- Styles can now use MIDI soloists. For example, make a style with a banjo part that has the same quality as the Band-in-a-Box Banjo soloist.
- Feature added to turn embellishment on/off for entire style.
- Style Flipping; convert “a” section to “b” and vice versa.

StylePicker enhancements



- StylePicker categories/subcategories redesigned, with new categories for Blues, Country (6 types), Jazz (9 types), and many more.
- Do you have styles that don’t appear in the StylePicker (because you’ve just made them, or got them from a 3rd party)? Now the StylePicker will automatically find those styles and add them to your list in an “Other Styles” category. The information regarding style name, Even/Swing, 8ths/16ths, and time signature are filled in for you.

-

Long style names appear on the main chord sheet screen beside the short style name

-

You can also specify a long style name (up to 32 characters) when saving a style from the StyleMaker or Hybrid style, and the 32 character name will appear in the StylePicker and on screen.

- RealDrums selection can now be made from the StylePicker.
- Support for up to 20,000 entries in the StylePicker.

Notation Window Enhancements

- New feature (confirmation dialog) to prevent accidental entry of a duplicate note (same pitch near same time).
- New feature (confirmation dialog) to prevent accidental entry of a very high or very low note (large # of ledger lines).

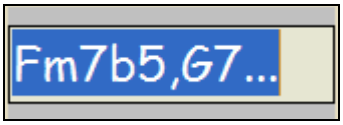
Bar Number options

- Setting for bar # size on notation, lead sheet, and printout.
- Bar # options to include bar # on lead sheet and printout (e.g., every bar, every part marker, every row, every page).
- Option to include substyle name when printing out - a, b, c, d, etc.
- Bar # offset for printout and lead sheet.

Other improvements

Other improvements include **chord editing**, and much more.

Chord Editing (in-place entry/editing)

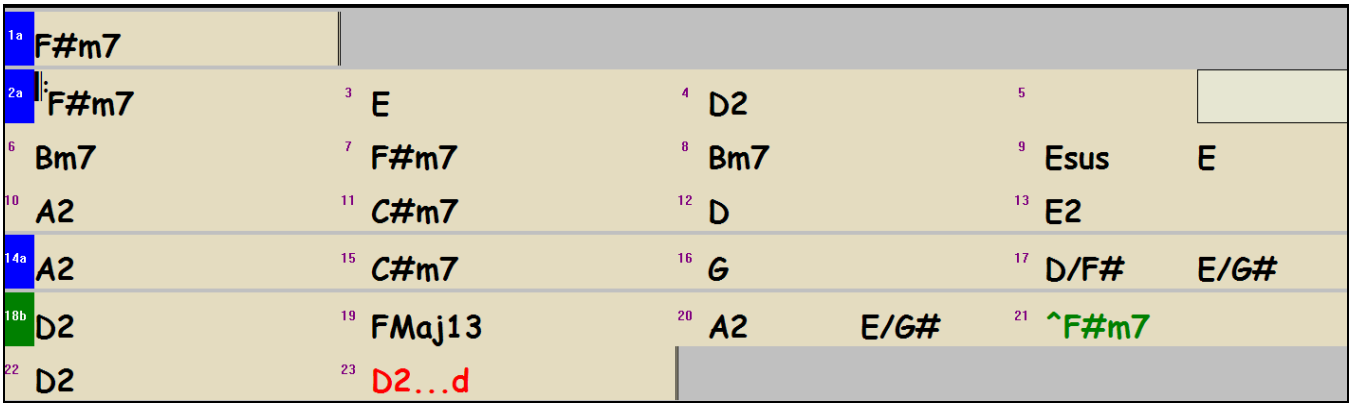


Press **Ctrl+F2** or right click on a chord, and an Edit control allows you to see and edit the current chords.

Change of Key Signature at any Bar. Previous versions of Band-in-a-Box were limited to one key, now you can have multiple keys in a song. The new key signature is shown on notation.

The GUI has been enhanced. There is support for Windows "Themes." Band-in-a-Box will use the current them that you have selected in Windows Control Panel to use for windows and dialogs.

Copying of sections or selections can be done using drag-and-drop, simply drag regions around the chord sheet to quickly rearrange your song. Hold down the **Ctrl** key for finer control about insert/overwrite options etc.

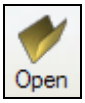


Section Paragraphs. When you're reading a book, a new section begins on a new line, with space between. Now we've done that for chords too. Whenever a new section occurs (a part marker), we start the new section on a new line and draw a grey line above to clearly mark the new section. For example, if you have a song with

a 7-bar section, followed by 8-bar sections, the previous version of Band-in-a-Box wouldn't start the other sections on a new line. The result was that it was hard to delineate the sections, as if an entire story was told within one paragraph. With the Section Paragraphs feature you'll see each section on a new line so that the form of the lead sheet is easier to see. The feature is configurable and optional.

Import Song. Easily import part or all of an existing Band-in-a-Box song to your current song, with options to specify source and destination range, type of information to import (chords, melody, lyrics, etc.), and more.

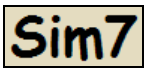
Karaoke MP3/CDG Files. Audio Karaoke files are popular using several formats. The most common is CDG format, which includes the lyrics in graphical format on audio CDs. Since the computer user doesn't typically use audio CDs, there is now a format that combines MP3 (containing the music) and CDG (the graphical lyrics). Now you can open up MP3/CDG files inside Band-in-a-Box and see the scrolling lyrics from your Karaoke files. Best of all, you can use the Audio Chord Wizard to figure out the chords as well, making Band-in-a-Box a great choice to play your Karaoke files!



File-Open now shows and opens all available file types (MGU, WAV, WMA, MP3, MID, KAR, CDG, and CDA). And it remembers your preference, so you can restrict it to a certain file type.

If MySong.MGU is loaded, and a same named audio file (MySong.WMA, MySong.MP3, MySong.WAV, etc.) is present, Band-in-a-Box will open the audio file to the audio track. This allows third parties to make audio files with chords in them, by making a MySong.MGU and MySong.MP3 pair of files, which will load into Band-in-a-Box, yet will have the audio compressed to take up little disk space. For example, make a teaching set of trombone files for Band-in-a-Box, with audio trombone track, and Band-in-a-Box file with chords, all fitting in a small file size.

Style Wizard enhanced. The Style Wizard converts a MIDI file to a style. Now you can also use Chord masks so that specific patterns over chords will get added to your style, and they will play exactly as in your MIDI file (just transposed).



"Fixed Do" Chord Entry and Display. In Italy and other parts of Europe, chords like C7 are always referred to by the Solfeggio name ("Do 7" for C7) regardless of the key signature. Band-in-a-Box now supports chord entry and display using "Fixed Do" (in addition to the Normal, Solfeggio, Nashville, and Roman numeral types.

Changes at any Bar (F5) can now specify a chorus.

Previously, any changes at a bar would apply for every chorus. Now you can specify the change to happen for every chorus and/or a specific chorus. This applies to bar settings like tempo changes, style changes, RealDrums changes, patch changes, volume changes, and harmony changes.

Other Features

Find File. So many files, so little time? This feature is a "Swiss Army Knife" that allows you to find a Band-in-a-Box song (or any file that Band-in-a-Box can open), including filtering by words found in file name or any text in the file.

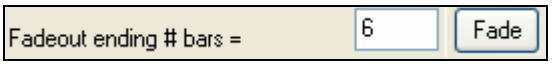
Example Find File uses:

You can

- get a listing of all Band-in-a-Box songs on your PC with the word "Blues" in the title.
- get a listing of all Band-in-a-Box songs in the BB folder with the word "Reggae" in them. This produces a list of over 50 songs in the MegaPAK so you can quickly choose from them and know that, if you're a reggae lover, you haven't missed out on any Band-in-a-Box songs/styles with Reggae. A similar listing for "Blues" reports 454 files.

The listing stays between sessions, so you can then take your time to explore all the files that Band-in-a-Box offers matching your find term.

Fadeout Song.



You can now quickly choose a fadeout ending, just press the **[Fade]** button in Song Settings, and Band-in-a-Box will fadeout the last "x" bars of the song (you can specify how many bars). Or customize the fadeout with precise values for each bar.

Tempo is set based on Style when choosing *File* | *New*. Instead of always resetting to tempo=140, the tempo is now the best tempo for the current style.

Improved Enharmonics on slash chords. For example, a chord like Gm7b5/Db will display correctly using a Db instead of a Gm7b5/C#, since Band-in-a-Box now bases it on a Gm scale.

MIDI files now read in **Section Markers** and show them as part markers.

Audition Styles. In the **style change dialog** (**F5**, and others), you can now **audition** the style that you are considering.

SongPicker dialog – new options added for

- Find File.
- File Open (all types).
- And Favorite song dialog.
- "BB" button that changes the current folder to the BB folder.

Audio Batch render.

- Option added to reset the DXi synth after each render. This insures that no audio (stuck notes etc.) from previous file is retained.
- Cancel button for the Audio Batch added.

On-screen display of file name includes "*" when file has been changed.

Double Lines || drawn on chord sheet at bar before a part marker.

…and many more!

Chapter 3: QuickStart Tutorial

QuickStart Tutorial for the Version 2008 Upgrade

The full descriptions of the new features in Version 2008 of Band-in-a-Box are provided elsewhere. This tutorial is a QuickStart tour of the new features in Band-in-a-Box 2008.

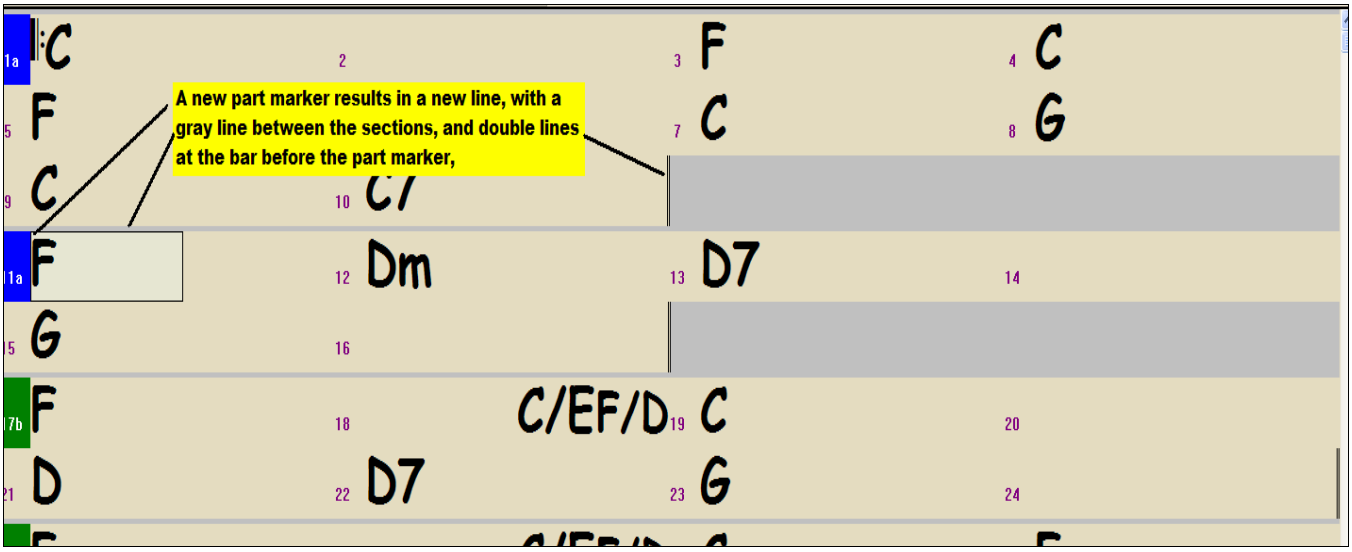
Note: It is assumed that you are somewhat familiar with the previous release of Band-in-a-Box.

Explore Band-in-a-Box Version 2008

First, we'll take a quick tour of the new features in Band-in-a-Box. Then we'll do an in-depth tutorial for the main new features. The other chapters in the manual are also tutorial style presentations of the new features.

Let's explore the main screen and menus.

On the chord sheet, you'll notice the "Section Paragraphs" feature. When a part marker is entered, the chord sheet will start a new line, with a line between the rows, and a double bar line on the prior bar.


A new part marker results in a new line, with a gray line between the sections, and double lines at the bar before the part marker,

The look of the windows and dialogs have been enhanced, with support of "themes" so that you can change the look of the program in the Windows Control Panel | Display | Themes.

New Main Menu Items

The *File* | *Medley Maker* command will open the Medley Maker, allowing you automatically make a medley of songs.

The *File* | *Import MGU Song* will import a MGU song into an existing song.

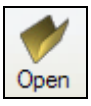
The *File* | *Open* command opens all types of files, not just MGU (i.e. MGU/MID/KAR/WAV/WMA/MP3/CDG/CDA)

Let's explore the RealTracks.

The RealTracks are covered in detail in Chapter 4, but let's get started here in the tutorial.

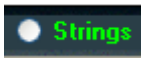
All the demo songs are found in the following Tutorial folder:

c:\bb\Tutorial BB 2008 RealTracks and MultiStyles.

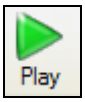


Open up the song named "=GeorgeP.MGU." This loads the style "=GeorgeP.STY."

Note: RealTracks style naming convention: The "=" indicates that it has a RealTracks. "George" is the name of the style, and "P" indicates RealPedalSteel.

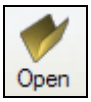


You will notice that the word "Strings" at the top of the screen is lit up in green. This indicates that a RealTrack will play on the strings track, because it is stored in the =GeorgeP.STY.

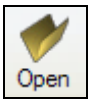


Press Play. You will then hear the song play. On the Strings part, you will hear a RealPedalSteel part. This is made from actual recordings of a top Nashville session pedal steel player.

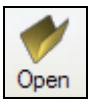
As the file plays, you can change the volume of the RealPedalSteel just as you would for the Strings part, or mute it by right clicking on the Strings part.



Now, let's load in a Real Acoustic Guitar song. Load in "=GeorgeG.MGU" and play it. You're now hearing the RealAcousticGuitar part on the Guitar part.

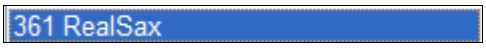


Load in "=GeorgGP.MGU" to hear *both* RealTracks at once.



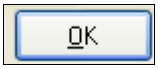
Open the song RealSax.MGU,

and then press the Soloist button,



and choose Soloist # 361.

Set the Soloist to solo in all choruses.



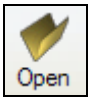
Now generate the solo. You'll then hear a RealSax solo.

Of course with any of these RealTracks, you can type in whatever chords that you want, and hear them playing over *your* songs!

Let's explore the MultiStyles.

MultiStyles are styles that have more than 2 substyles. Instead of just "a" and "b," they can have a, b, c, d, etc. all the way to "x."

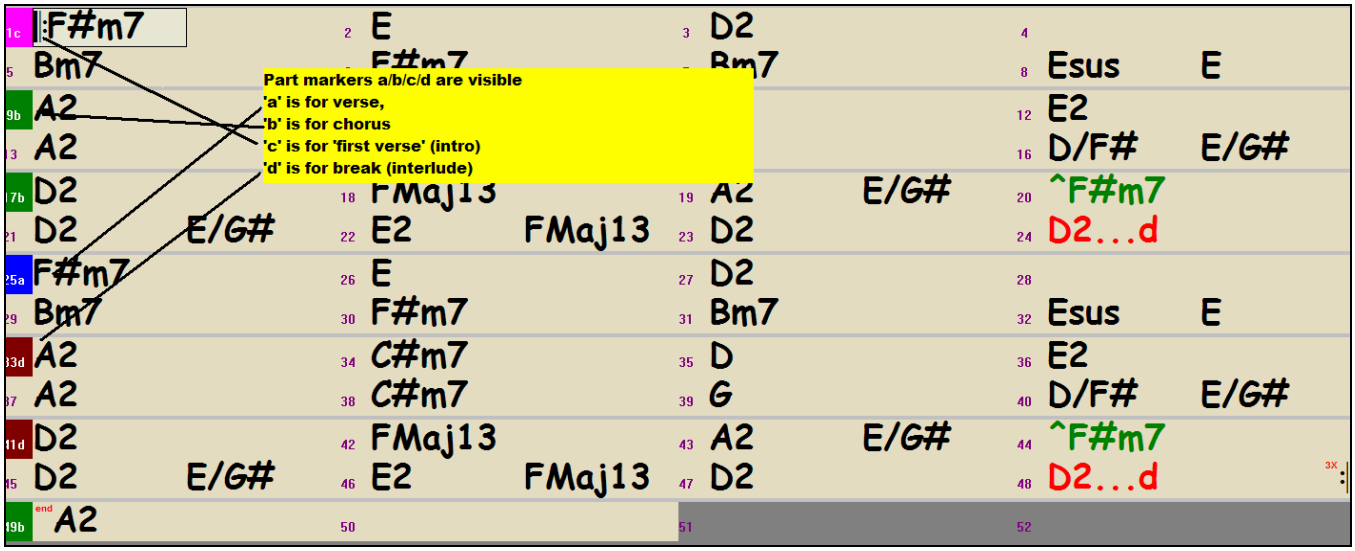
Most MultiStyles that we've made have 4 substyles, conforming to the following pop song format (a=verse, b=chorus, c=intro (pre-verse), d=break (interlude)



Open up the song NR_CURR+.MGU. This loads NR_CURR+.STY.

Note: MultiStyle naming convention: The "+" indicates that it is a MultiStyle, with more than 2 substyles.

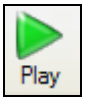
You can see the MultiStyle markers on the chord sheet.



Look at the toolbar at the right of the screen.

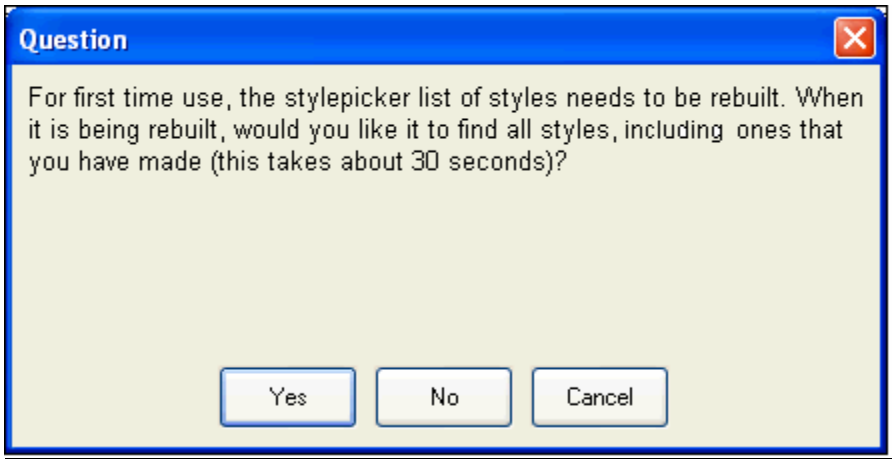
There is a RealTracks button. These are audio styles like RealPedalSteel, RealAcousticGuitar, and RealSax that replace the MIDI instrument track with actual recordings of top studio musicians. The **RealTracks Settings** dialog lets you control the RealTracks.

There is a Medley Maker that launches the Medley Maker – this allows you to make a medley of songs automatically.



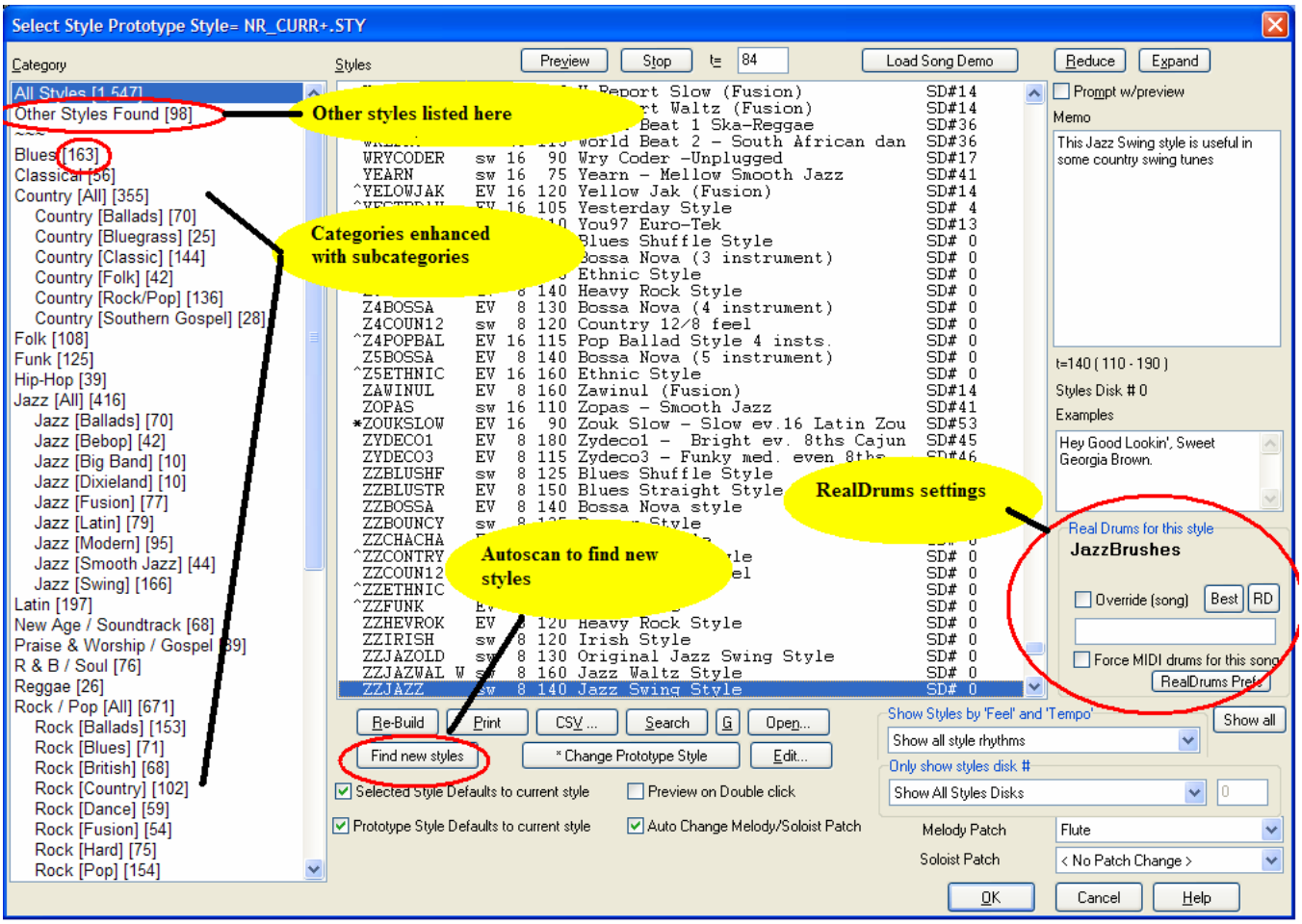
Play the file, and you can hear the various substyles.

Explore additional MultiStyles by visiting the StylePicker, looking in the category called “MultiStyles.”


Question
For first time use, the stylepicker list of styles needs to be rebuilt. When it is being rebuilt, would you like it to find all styles, including ones that you have made (this takes about 30 seconds)?
Yes
No
Cancel

Note: The first time that you visit the StylePicker, it will rebuild the list of styles, this will take about 30 seconds. It will scan your BB folder to look for *other* styles that you have, so they can be included in the list automatically.

Once that’s finished, you’ll see the StylePicker window.



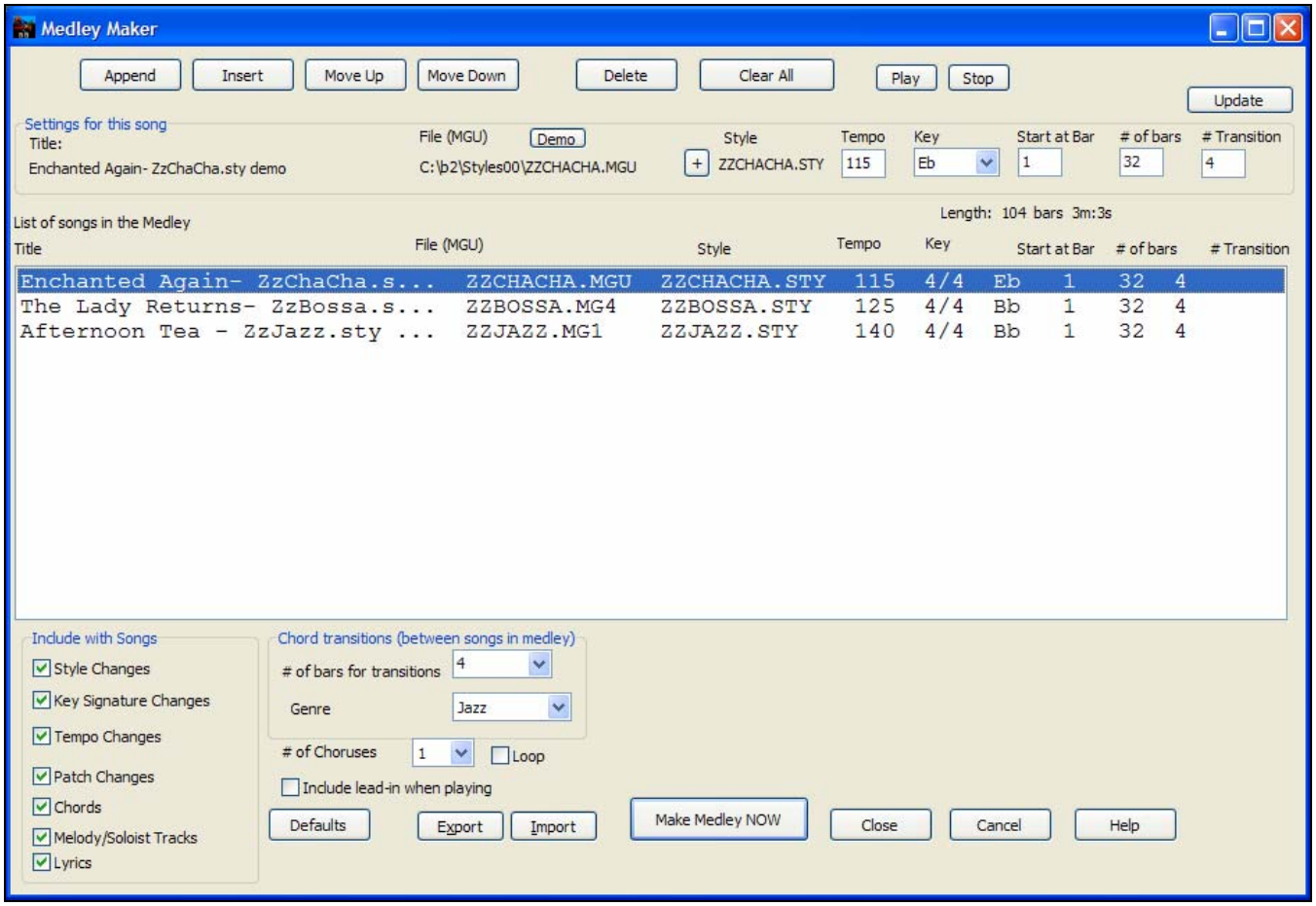
Now, let's make a Medley!

Choose *File* | *Medley Maker* (or press the **[A+B]** Medley Maker button on the toolbar).

Using the **[Append]** button choose the following files.

- C:\bb\styles00\ZZCHACHA.MGU
- C:\bb\styles00\ZZBOSSA.MG4
- C:\bb\styles00\ZZJAZZ.MG1

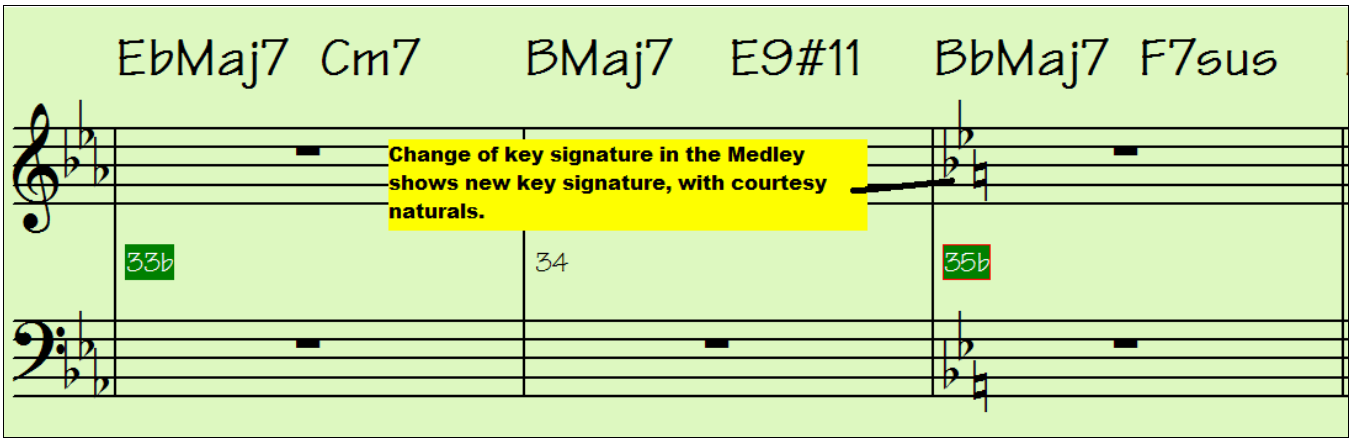
Your screen will look like this.

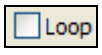


Press **[Make Medley NOW]**.

You'll now be hearing the medley. Note that:

- Style changes and tempo changes occur for each song.
- There are automatic transitions between the songs, with outro and intro chords between them generated automatically.
- Key signature changes are written to the notation.

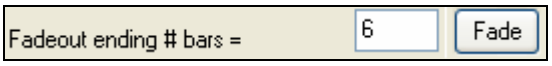

EbMaj7 Cm7 BMaj7 E9#11 BbMaj7 F7sus
Change of key signature in the Medley shows new key signature, with courtesy naturals.
33b
34
35b

- Patch changes for the melody occur for each song because we have checked "Patch Changes" in the "Include with Songs" group box.
- 

The medley doesn't loop at the end (because we left the Loop box unchecked).

Let's put in a fadeout for the Medley.

Press the Song Settings button or select *Edit* | *Settings (for This Song)*.



Choose a number of bars to fade out (press the **[Fade]** button to insert 6 bars of fade, or choose your own). Now the song will fade out at the end!

Let's visit the improved Audio Chord Wizard.

The Audio Chord Wizard now has a full chord sheet, allowing you to see the whole song at once, and you can insert part markers to delineate the sections.

This means that you can learn the chords of the song while also seeing the form of the song with the sections divided up.

This may become your "preferred method" of learning Pop tunes:

- Load the tune (MP3) into AudioChordWizard,

- put in the part markers,

- look at the sections to learn the form of the tune, and (of course),

- learn the chords!

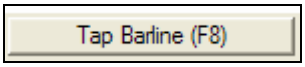
And navigate *musically* by clicking on bars of a chord sheet with chords, instead of a timeline on a waveform!

Press the Audio Chord Wizard button to launch the Audio Chord Wizard.

Choose an audio file (WAV/WMA/MP3/CDA from audio CD). For this discussion, open up c:\bb\Tutorial BB2007\Frontier.MP3

You will now see the song, and the new Lead Sheet window in the Audio Chord Wizard is visible.

Press <Spacebar> to play the song.



As the song plays, when the downbeat of a new bar starts, hit the **Enter** key (or **F8**). This is called "tapping in a bar line."

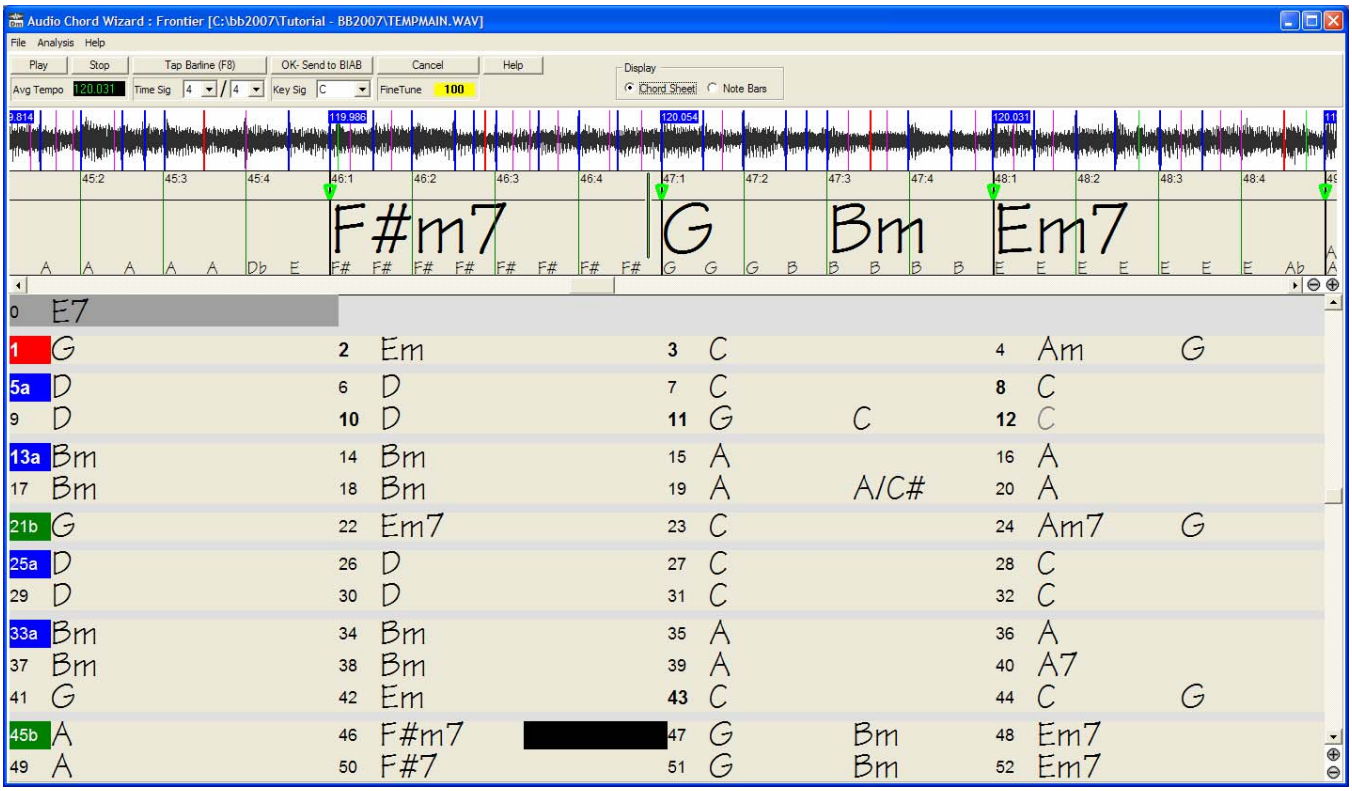
The first time you do that, the program will consider that point to be "bar 1." Tap in a few more bar lines.

Click on the chord sheet, and the music will jump to that location.

Now, let's define some sections in the song.

If a bar begins a new section, click on the bar # on the chord sheet, or press the **P** key to put in a part marker. Pressing **P** again will change the part marker, and then turn it off.

Now the song is divided into sections, with space between each section, and each section starting on a new line.


Audio Chord Wizard : Frontier [C:\bb2007\Tutorial - BB2007\TEMPMAIN.WAV]
File Analysis Help
Play Stop Tap Barline (F8) OK- Send to BIAB Cancel Help
Avg Tempo 120.031 Time Sig 4 / 4 Key Sig C FineTune 100
Display Chord Sheet Note Bars
F#m7 G Bm Em7
0 E7
1 G 2 Em 3 C 4 Am G
5a D 6 D 7 C 8 C
9 D 10 D 11 G C 12 C
13a Bm 14 Bm 15 A 16 A
17 Bm 18 Bm 19 A A/C# 20 A
21b G 22 Em7 23 C 24 Am7 G
25a D 26 D 27 C 28 C
29 D 30 D 31 C 32 C
33a Bm 34 Bm 35 A 36 A
37 Bm 38 Bm 39 A 40 A7
41 G 42 Em 43 C 44 C G
45b A 46 F#m7 47 G Bm 48 Em7
49 A 50 F#7 51 G Bm 52 Em7

We've explored the main screen, RealTracks, MultiStyles, Medley Maker, improved StylePicker, and AudioChordWizard.

There are more details on all of these and other features in the following chapters.

This is the end of the tutorial.

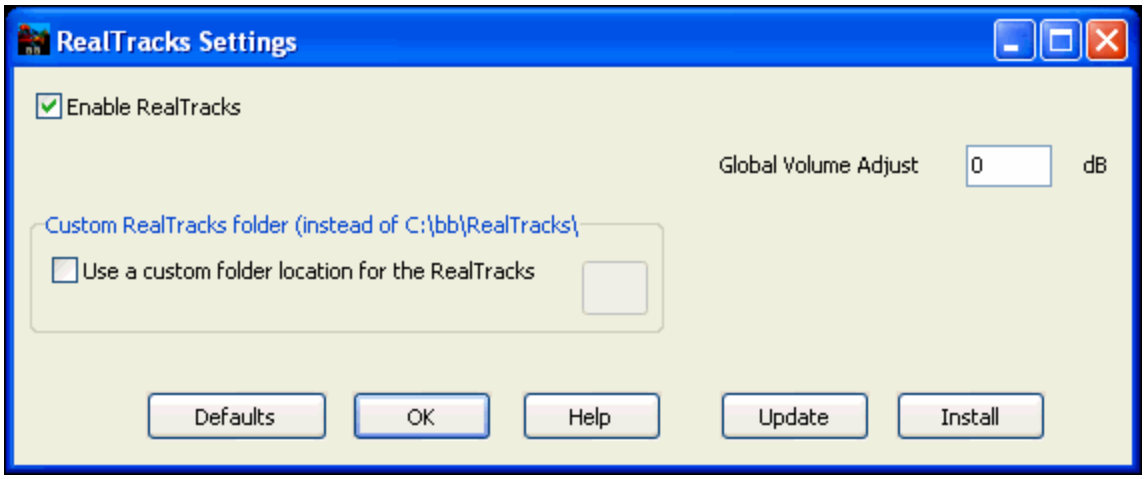
Thanks for taking the time to read this chapter. The next chapters examine the new features in detail.

Chapter 4: RealTracks™

What are RealTracks?

With the previous release of Band-in-a-Box, we added RealDrums. Now we've added three additional "Real" instruments, including RealPedalSteel, RealAcousticGuitar, and RealSax soloing (tenor sax). These tracks replace the MIDI track for that instrument, and can be controlled just like the MIDI instrument (volume changes, muting etc.). Best of all, they follow the chord progression that you have entered, so that you hear an authentic audio accompaniment to your song. These are not "samples," but are full recordings, lasting from 1 to 8 bars at a time, playing along in perfect sync with the other Band-in-a-Box tracks. RealTracks can be built in to the style, and would replace the Bass, Guitar, Piano, or Strings part, or they can be generated to the Soloist (or Melody) track using the Soloist feature.

There is a RealTracks button on the toolbar. The **RealTracks Settings** dialog lets you control the RealTracks.



There are 2 ways that you can use RealTracks with Band-in-a-Box.

1. **RealStyles**. These are Band-in-a-Box styles (.STY) that have at least one RealTrack. For example the style called "=GeorgeP.sty" is a RealStyle because it uses RealPedalSteel for the Strings part, as well as other instruments (MIDI bass, MIDI piano, MIDI guitar, RealDrums).
   Technical note: You can add a RealTrack to an existing style in the StyleMaker, using **[Misc] [More]** "Assign RealTracks to style." The RealTracks gets generated on one of the Band-in-a-Box style tracks (Piano, Guitar, or Strings).
2. **RealSoloists**. These are Soloists that are generated on the Soloist track, by pressing the Soloist button on the main screen. Soloists 361-363 are using the RealTracks. **Tip:** You can quickly go to Soloist 362 by typing 362 and pressing "Go To #" or using the Favorites if you've previously chosen this soloist.

We include 3 RealTracks with Band-in-a-Box 2008

1. RealPedalSteel. This is suitable for Country/SoftPop ballads with an even 8th feel, at a tempo of about 85. It can be used in styles (on the Strings part) or as a Soloist. It can be used in a style or as a stand-alone soloist.
2. RealAcousticGuitar. This is also suitable for slow ballads, tempo about 85. It features a strumming Acoustic Guitar, and can be used as a Soloist (#362) or in a style (on the Guitar part).
3. RealSax. This is laid-back tenor sax Jazz soloing, medium tempo. It is used as a Soloist. **Technical note:** It would be possible to make a style that has sax soloing, it wouldn't be that useful musically.

Using RealTracks in Styles.

For this discussion, we will assume that we are using RealPedalSteel, in the style "=GeorgeP.sty."

Note: We use this naming convention for Real Styles. This is optional.

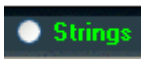
The first letter of "=" indicates that at least one instrument is a RealTrack.

The last letter(s) indicate(s) which instrument it is.

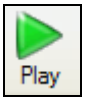
"P"= Pedal Steel, "G"=Guitar, "PG"=Pedal Steel and Guitar.

So the name "=GeorgeP.sty" tells you that it is a style called George, that has RealPedalSteel. The MIDI tracks will be the same as another country style that we have called C_George.STY

Load in the song c:\bb\Tutorial BB2008\=GeorgeP.mgu



You will see that the Strings part at the top of the screen is highlighted in green. That indicates that this is a RealTrack.



To play the song, just press **[Play]**. You'll then hear pedal steel guitar on the String part.

You can adjust the volume of the pedal steel part with the Volume control for the String part, just as with any Band-in-a-Box part, or mute it by right clicking on the String part.

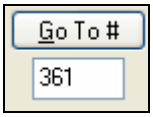
Note: The RealTrack can optionally be generated on the Piano, Guitar, or Strings parts in a Band-in-a-Box style.

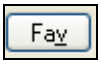
Finding all styles that have RealTracks.

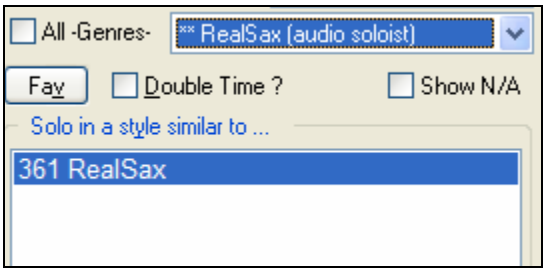
Open the StylePicker and locate the category called RealTracks styles. It will list any styles that are present that include RealTracks.

Using RealTracks in Solos.

Press the Soloist button (**Shift+F4**) and launch the **Select Soloist** dialog. Get to Soloists in the range 361-363. You can do that either by:

1. 

Typing 361 and pressing **[Go To #]**.
2. 

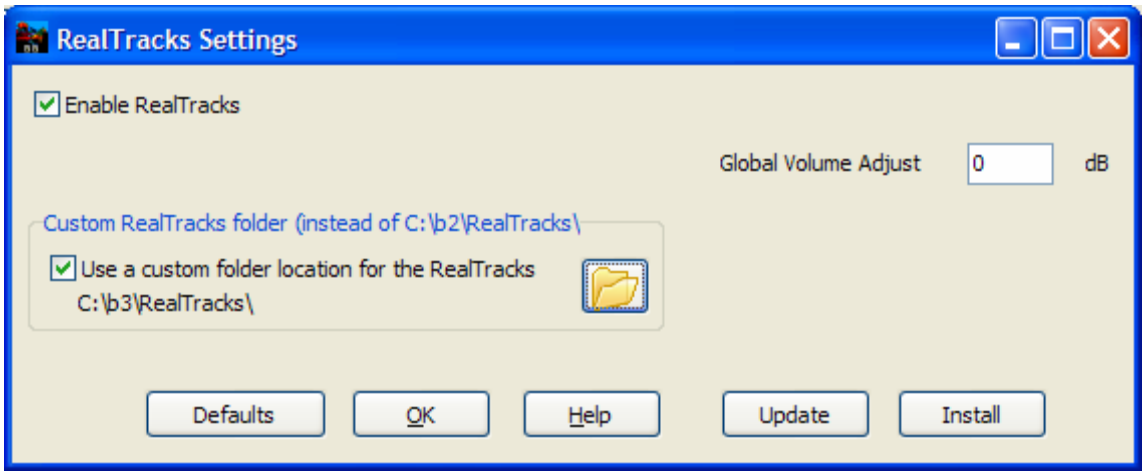
Choosing Favorites will allow you to return to a recently chosen Soloist
3. 

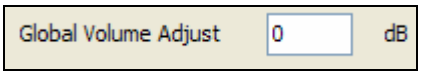
Choose the Genre "RealSax" from the list of Genres to see all available Soloists that use RealSax.

As with other Soloists, press the **[All Solo]** button to make sure that the Soloist will be generated for all choruses, or "Melody and Solo" if you just want the Soloist for a certain chorus.

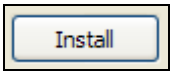
Configuring Real Tracks - RealTracks Settings Dialog

The RealTracks styles are stored in c:\bb\RealTracks (assuming that c:\bb is your Band-in-a-Box folder). You can choose an alternate location, in the **Preferences [RealTracks]** dialog. You don't need to visit this folder when using RealTracks; it is used internally by Band-in-a-Box. So you shouldn't add or remove files from this RealTracks folder, unless you "know what you're doing."





The RealTracks settings dialog also allows you to Enable/Disable the RealTracks feature, and apply an overall Global Volume Adjust to the RealTracks. If they are too loud generally, set a Global Volume Adjust of about -10 dB.



The installation routine for Band-in-a-Box usually installs (decompresses) the audio files to WAV files. But if you decided not to decompress them at install time, you can press the Install button to complete that process.

Saving Your RealTracks

The RealTracks performance is not saved with the Band-in-a-Box MGU file. This is because the Band-in-a-Box MGU file only contains chords/melody/lyrics (and an optional audio track WAV file)

As with other MIDI Band-in-a-Box parts and RealDrums, the RealTracks can be saved by

1.

Rendering the performance to a WAV file, or
2.

separate WAV files.

Technical Tip: If you want to permanently attach a RealTracks WAV file to a MySong.MGU song, you could render to separate WAV files, and then rename the RealTracks WAV file to MySong.WAV. Then the RealTracks will be on the Audio track.

Are other RealTracks available?

Currently there are 3 RealTracks available. We are making more. Check www.pgmusic.com for details of availability.

Chapter 5: MultiStyles

We've added MultiStyles to Band-in-a-Box. These are styles that can have up to 24 substyles! Previous Band-in-a-Box styles had 2 substyles ("a" and "b"). Now, for example, a MultiStyle with 4 substyles (First Verse, Verse, Chorus, and Break) can be used, and you select the various sections using a, b, c, and d part markers. Our newest styles sets are MultiStyles, typically with 4 substyles, but some Techno styles have 24 substyles. You can easily make your own MultiStyles, either from scratch, or combining parts from existing styles, to make a MultiStyle. For example, if you have 10 favorite Country styles, you can quickly make a single MultiStyle that has 20 substyles available within the same song.

There are 2 types of MultiStyles

1. MultiStyles in styles, working for every song (e.g. NR_CURR+.STY Nashville Rock Current Multistyle).
2. MultiStyles for specific song only.

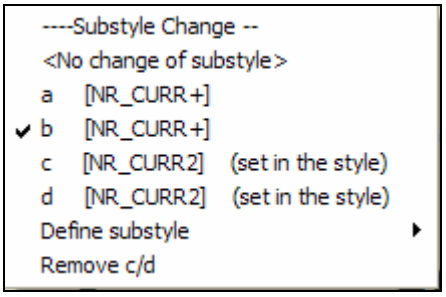
MultiStyles in Styles ("+" Styles)

Styles can be made that have multiple substyles, and you can choose the various substyles using the letters a, b, c, d, etc. up to "x" for 24 substyles.

Our naming convention for MultiStyles is to use a + sign at the end of the style name. For example, MyStyle+.STY would be a MultiStyle.

You can use these substyles easily, just enter the StylePicker and find the category "Styles With MultiStyles," or search for the "+" character.

For example, load the song NR_CURR+.MGU from the c:\bb\Tutorial BB 2008 folder. This loads the NR_CURR+.sty. When you see the "+" in the style name, you'll know that this is a MultiStyle.



Right click on a part marker, and you'll see that there are 4 substyles available.

In the style NR_CURR+, there are 4 substyles, a, b, c, and d.

Standard Pop Song form with 4 substyle MultiStyle

In NR_CURR+ (and as a general rule for styles with 4 substyles):

- "a" substyle is for the verse.
- "b" substyle is for the chorus.
- "c" substyle is for the intro (or first verse).
- "d" substyle is for the break (or interlude).

Choose your substyle by clicking on the part marker, or right clicking to select and define substyles. Here we have chosen "c" substyle, appropriate for the intro or first verse of the song (because the playing is sparse and sustained).

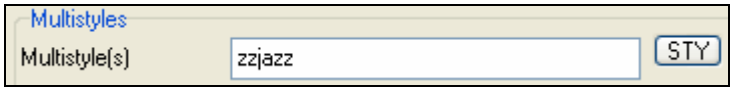
The following styles sets are the first ones with MultiStyles. They have 4 MultiStyles per style, except Techno, which uses up to 20 substyles per style.

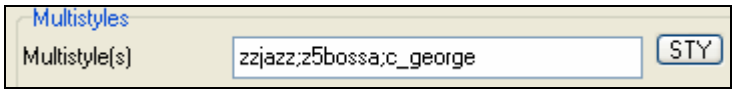
- Styles Set #69: Techno MultiStyles
- Styles Set #71: Urban Pop MultiStyles
- Styles Set #74: Nashville Rock MultiStyles
- Styles Set #75: Country MultiStyles

Making your own MultiStyles in Styles

You can make a style that is a MultiStyle. For example:

-

Open the StyleMaker, press **[Misc]**.
- 

In the MultiStyles group box, type the name of a style that you would like to use for the c/d section.
- 

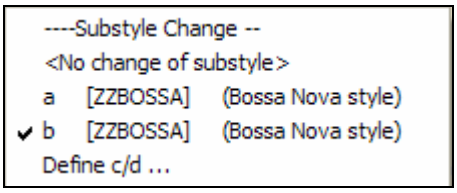
If you'd like more substyles, add more styles separated by semicolons (e.g. "zzjazz;z5bossa;c_george"). Then you'd have 8 substyles from "a" to "h".

Note that each of these styles can have a specific RealDrums style, either stored in the style itself (**Misc. Style Settings** "RealDrums Settings"), or substituted via MIDI substitutions in RealDrums settings.

MultiStyles in Songs

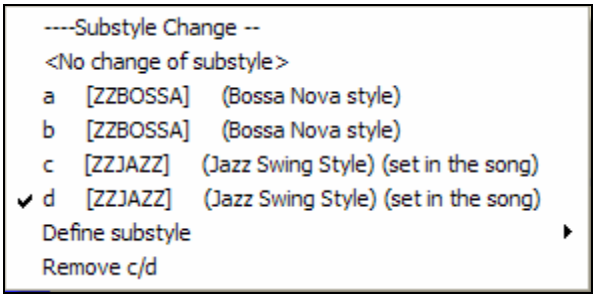
If you have a song, you can also use more than 2 substyles for that song. For example, let's say we have a song that is a Bossa Nova and you want to have a Jazz Swing section. Rather than finding a MultiStyle that has this exact combination, we can make one, in the song, for *this song only* as follows:

Load a song like c:\bb\styles0\zzbossa.mg4



Right click on a bar number, and choose "Define c/d."

Then choose ZZJAZZ.STY from the StylePicker.



You will then see that there are 4 substyles now, a, b, c, d. You can use the "d" substyle for Jazz Swing walking bass, since it is the same as the "b" substyle from ZZJAZZ.

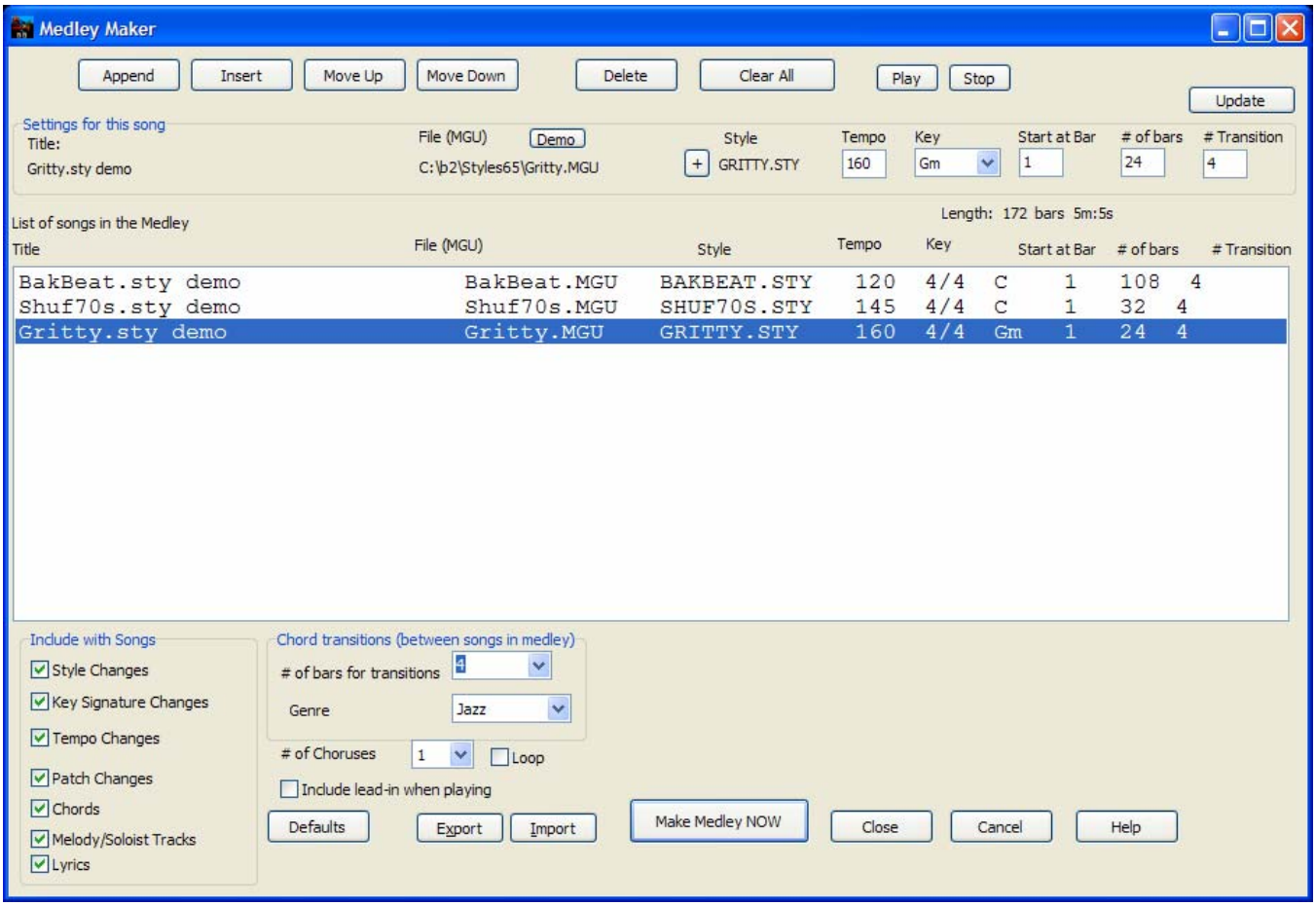
Load the song c:\bb\Tutorial BB 2008\ "Demo of MultiStyle in song only Bossa 2 Jazz.MG4" and you can see the finished result. This song switches styles using part markers.

Note: The RealDrums will play for all of the styles if you have enabled RealDrums and "Substitute RealDrums for \ MIDI drums" in the **RealDrums Settings** dialog.

Chapter 6: Medley Maker

Would you like to make a medley of various Band-in-a-Box songs (MGU) using Band-in-a-Box? This is easily done with the new Medley Maker. Inside the Medley Maker, simply select the songs that you want, and Band-in-a-Box will make the medley for you. A medley is not simply joining songs together. A good medley uses a "transition" area between songs to introduce the new style, key, and tempo. The Medley Maker automatically creates a nice transition area for you, writing in chords that would smoothly modulate to the next song, style, key, and tempo!

To open the Medley Maker, click on the **[A+B]** button on the toolbar or choose *File* | *Medley Maker*. This launches the **Medley Maker** dialog.



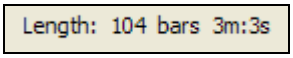
To make a medley,

- add songs by pressing the **[Append]** or **[Insert]** button.
- remove songs using **[Delete]**.
- change the order of the songs using **[Move Up]**, **[Move Down]**.
- for any song, customize using the "Settings for this song" group box, including changing the style, tempo, key, start bar, # of bars, and # of transition bars. Press **[Update]** after customizing to see your changes in the medley list.
- choose the type of information to include with your medley (styles, key signature changes, lyrics, etc.) in the "Include with Songs" group box
- choose a number of transition bars (the default is 4). Transition bars are automatic bars of chords inserted by Band-in-a-Box to transition from one song to the other, generating an "outro" and an "intro" between songs.

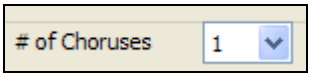
Press the **[Make Medley NOW]** button to generate a medley.

The maximum size of the medley is 255 bars (about 7 minutes).

The current size and time of your medley is displayed in the Length label.



You can have multiple choruses, so if you had 3 choruses of a 250 bar medley, it would last 750 bars.



Tip: Your medley will use RealDrums if you have RealDrums enabled. If so, you should keep the various tempos of the songs within a close range. Because the quality of the RealDrums stretching would go down if a song in the medley had a much lower tempo than the previous one, it is tempos that slow down to avoid.

Chapter 7: AudioChordWizard

Audio Chord Wizard Enhancements

The Audio Chord Wizard is the amazing feature that automatically figures out the chords from MP3 files (or other audio files like WAV, WMA, and audio CD etc.). Using the Audio Chord Wizard is a great way to learn and practice popular songs as you play along and see the chords.

We've added a Lead Sheet window that shows the chords for the whole song on a single screen. This allows you to click on a bar on the chord sheet to jump to that area of the song.

You can mark sections of the song using part markers, and the sections will begin on a new line with a line space between so they are clearly seen. You can then also learn the *form* of the song, as you can see the various intro, verse, chorus, break sections at a glance, or quickly jump to any section just by double-clicking on that part of the chord sheet.

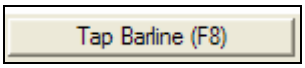
Press the Audio Chord Wizard button to launch the Audio Chord Wizard.

Choose an audio file (WAV/WMA/MP3/CDA from audio CD).

For this discussion, open up c:\bb\Tutorial BB2007\Frontier.MP3.

You will now see the song, and the new Lead Sheet window in the Audio Chord Wizard is visible.

Play the song.



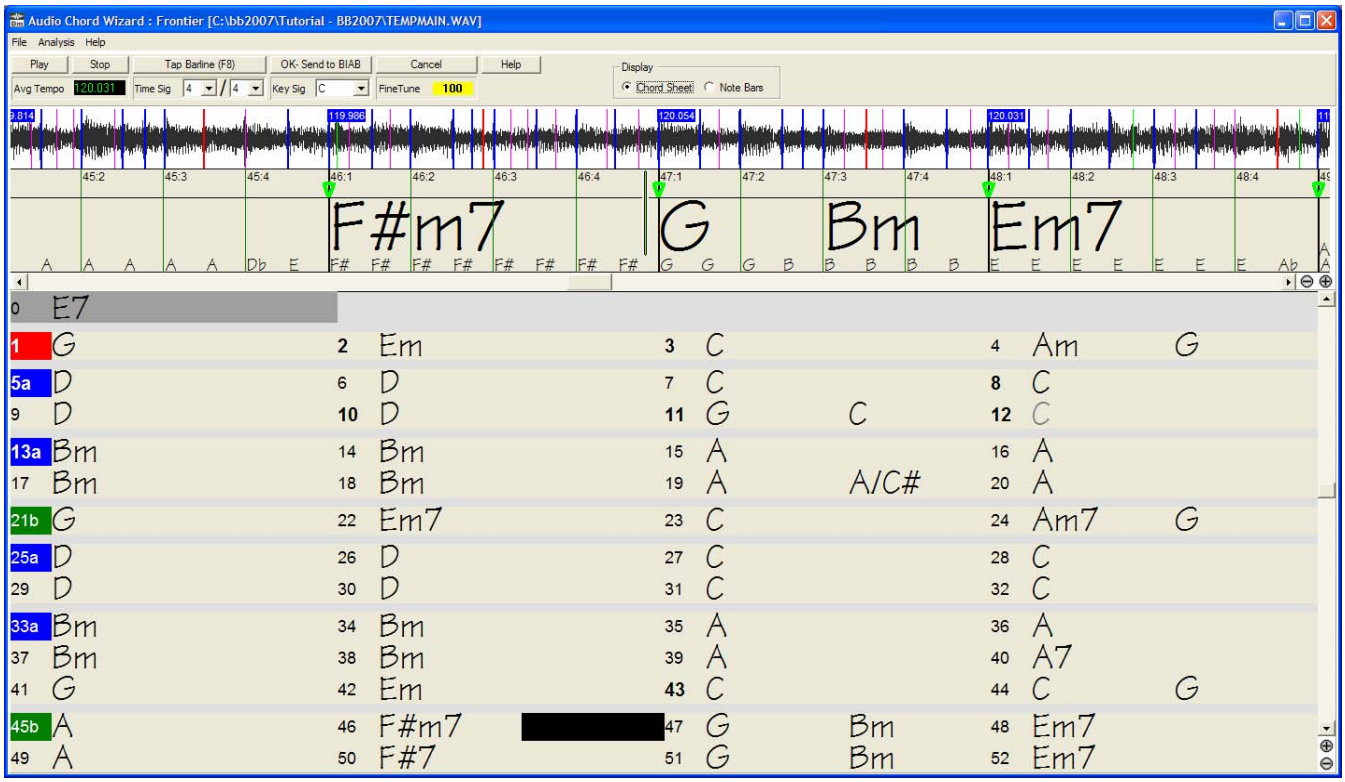
When a new bar starts, hit the **Enter** key (or **F8**). This is called "tapping in a bar line."

The first time you do that, the program will consider that point to be "bar 1." Tap in a few more bar lines.

Click on the chord sheet, and the music will jump to that location.

Now, let's define some sections in the song.

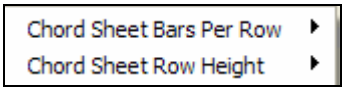
If a bar begins a new section, click on the bar # on the chord sheet, or press the **P** key to put in a part marker. Pressing **P** again will change the part marker, and then turn it off.


Audio Chord Wizard : Frontier [C:\bb2007\Tutorial - BB2007\TEMPMAIN.WAV]
File Analysis Help
Play Stop Tap Barline (F8) OK- Send to BIAB Cancel Help
Avg Tempo 120.031 Time Sig 4 / 4 Key Sig C FineTune 100
Display Chord Sheet Note Bars
F#m7 G Bm Em7
0 E7
1 G 2 Em 3 C 4 Am G
5a D 6 D 7 C 8 C
9 D 10 D 11 G C 12 C
13a Bm 14 Bm 15 A 16 A
17 Bm 18 Bm 19 A A/C# 20 A
21b G 22 Em7 23 C 24 Am7 G
25a D 26 D 27 C 28 C
29 D 30 D 31 C 32 C
33a Bm 34 Bm 35 A 36 A
37 Bm 38 Bm 39 A 40 A7
41 G 42 Em 43 C 44 C G
45b A 46 F#m7 47 G Bm 48 Em7
49 A 50 F#7 51 G Bm 52 Em7

Now the song is divided into sections, with space between each section, and each section starting on a new line.

If we want to renumber the bars, right click on the waveform timeline at the place that you would like to be bar 1, and choose “Set Bar One.”

To change the # of bars per row, or rows per screen, right click on the chord sheet.



The +/- buttons at the bottom right also change the row height.

The Audio Chord Wizard is a great way to learn the chords of songs. And now that you can add section markers and divide the song logically into sections, it is also a great way to learn the “form” of the song, an essential part of learning popular songs.

Chapter 8: RealDrums Enhancements

The RealDrums feature replaces MIDI drums with audio drums.

Style Changes

You can now have style changes - multiple RealDrums styles within a song - either using the RealDrums from a Band-in-a-Box style or specifying a particular RealDrums style to use at a bar.

To get a change at a bar, press **F5** to open the bar settings dialog. In this dialog, you can enter a change of RealDrums. Or you can enter a change of style, which will also result in a change of RealDrums.

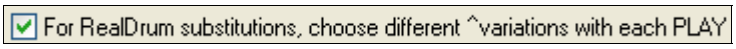
MultiStyles are another way to get changes of RealDrums, since each pair of substyles a/b, c/d, e/f etc can have a different RealDrums style stored in the style.

Artist Support

We have "artist" support; this allows you to choose among different drummers playing the same style. For example, we have multiple artists playing the "JazzBrushes" style. You can set Band-in-a-Box to choose a different artist with each play, or always choose a specific artist.

In *Options* | *Preferences* **RealDrums Settings** you will see the "Favor Artists" selection box. If this is set to "Always" and a MIDI style is chosen that calls for a RealDrums style called "Jazz," then Band-in-a-Box will look for styles called Jazz# followed by an artist name. This way, you can get add-on artist RealDrums, and they can use the same name styles. For example, all your Jazz Styles can play using Jazz#TerryClarke if you get the add-on TerryClarke RealDrums set.

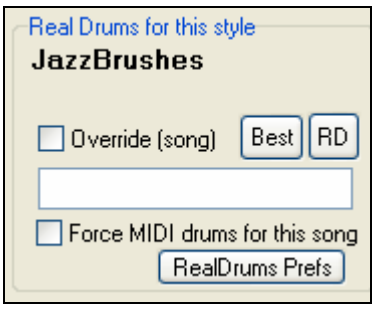
Setting this to sometimes will result in the artist being chosen 50% of the time.



If the sometimes is set, and "choose different variations with each play" is selected, Band-in-a-Box will switch artists randomly each play.

StylePicker RealDrums Settings

You can now select RealDrums styles within the StylePicker. Highlight a MIDI style that you like and press the RealDrums **[Best]** button, to see a list of the most compatible RealDrums styles for that style, or the **[RD]** button to select from all available RealDrums.



The RealDrums for this style shows you the current style that would be substituted (assuming you have RealDrums enabled, and MIDI substitutions enabled in RealDrums Prefs).

You can override the RealDrums for a certain song by selecting any RealDrums set with the **[RD]** button.

Or use the **[Best]** button, which will show you RealDrums that match the feel of the currently selected style. Or force MIDI drums for this song.

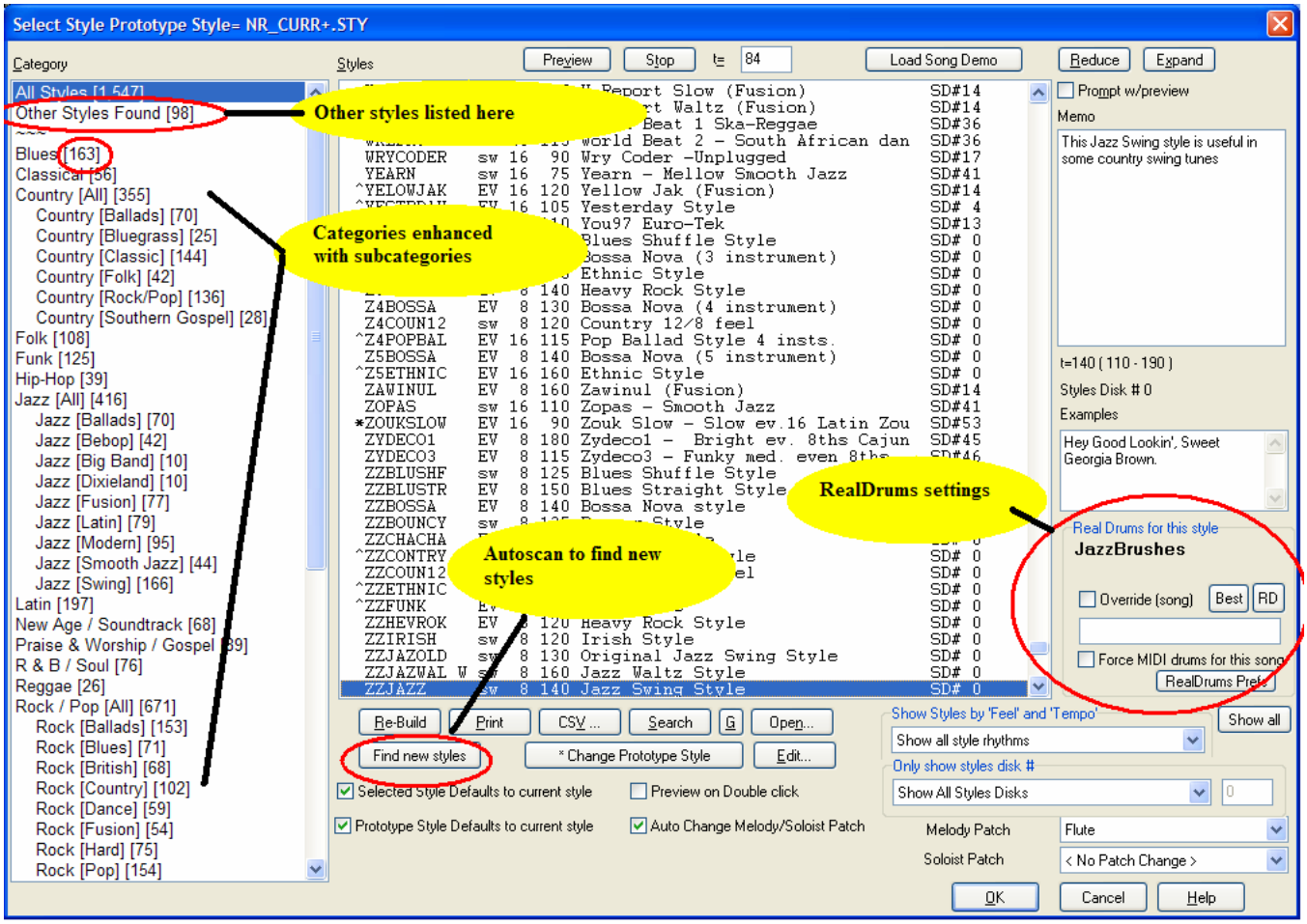
There is a new hot key combination to turn RealDrums on/off (**Ctrl+Shift+F6**). This also works while the song is playing.

Chapter 9: StylePicker Enhancements

The Band-in-a-Box StylePicker can now support up to 20,000 entries, with more subcategories, an auto-find feature, long style names, and RealDrums support.

Expanded Category Listings

StylePicker categories/subcategories have been redesigned, with new categories for Blues, Country (6 types), Jazz (9 types), and many more.



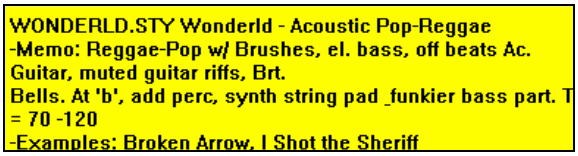
Auto-Find Styles

Do you have styles that don't appear in the StylePicker (because you've just made them, or got them from a 3rd party)? Now the StylePicker will automatically find those styles and add them to your list in an "Other Styles" category. The information regarding style name, Even/Swing, 8ths/16ths, and time signature are filled in for you.

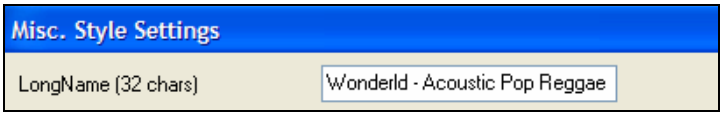
Long Style Names

Long style names appear on the main chord sheet screen beside the short style name.

- Click on the style name to see the style memo and example names.


WONDERLD.STY Wonderld - Acoustic Pop-Reggae
-Memo: Reggae-Pop w/ Brushes, el. bass, off beats Ac.
Guitar, muted guitar riffs, Brt.
Bells. At 'b', add perc, synth string pad _funkier bass part. T
= 70 -120
-Examples: Broken Arrow, I Shot the Sheriff

- You can also specify a long style name (up to 32 characters) when saving a style from the StyleMaker or as a hybrid style, and the 32 character name will appear in the StylePicker and on screen.
- In the StyleMaker **Misc. Style Settings**, type the long name that you want (32 chars), and this will appear on screen (after **[Re-Build]** is pressed in the StylePicker).



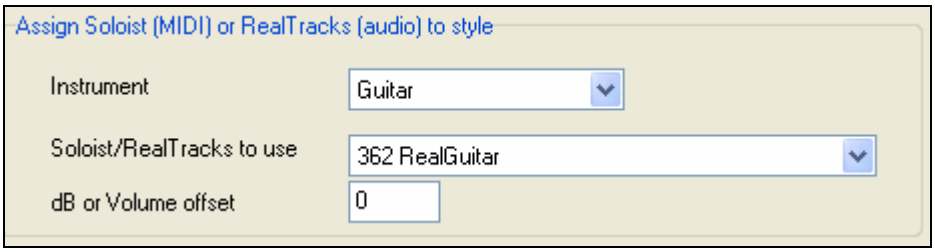
Chapter 10: StyleMaker Enhancements

Style Instrument Assignments

Styles can now contain RealTracks or MIDI soloists.

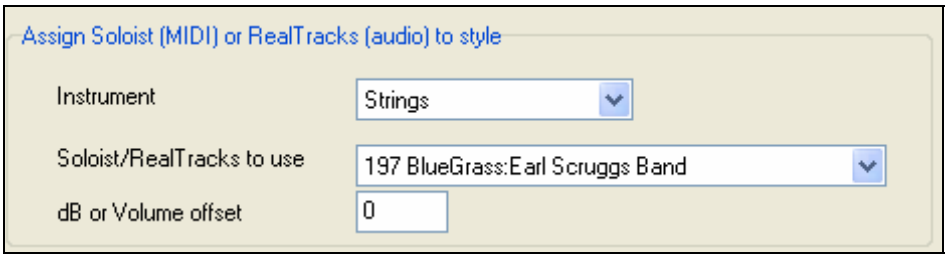
In the StyleMaker, go to **Misc. Style Settings** and select the **[More]** button.

To assign RealTracks to a style set the "Instrument" to use, and the RealTracks #. In the example, we are using RealGuitar for the Guitar track.



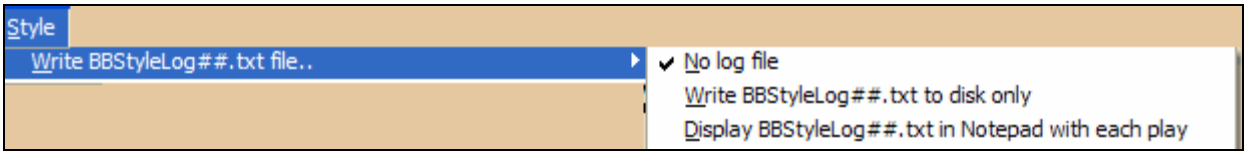
Styles can have multiple RealTracks. For example, you could have RealPedalSteel and RealAcousticGuitar. And also RealDrums.

Styles can also use MIDI soloists. For example, make a style with a banjo part that has the same quality as the Band-in-a-Box Banjo Soloist. Here we are assigning an Earl Scruggs Bluegrass solo to the Strings part.



Style Log Options

For people making styles, the Style Log text file shows exactly which pattern was used in the song generation for every instrument and bar/beat. This is useful in fixing errant patterns.



To set a style log, choose the StyleMaker *Style | Write BBStyleLog##.txt file* menu option *Display BB StyleLog##.txt" in Notepad with each play*.

Then, a file called BBStyleLog##.txt will be displayed.

Here is a sample:

Bass: Bar 1 Beat=1, Row= 1, Col=12, Location=13, Chord= C

Piano , Bar 1 Beat=1, Row= 1, Col=17, Location=140, Chord= C

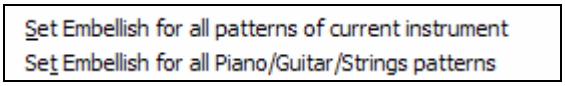
Guitar , Bar 1 Beat=1, Row= 5, Col=8, Location=287, Chord= C

Strings, Bar 1 Beat=1, Row= 5, Col=23, Location=274, Chord= C

This tells you that when the song was generated, for the bass track, at bar 1 the pattern found in row 1, column 12 of the StyleMaker was chosen.

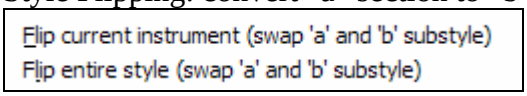
More new StyleMaker features

- Feature added to turn embellishment on/off for entire style.



This is done via the *Styles* menu in StyleMaker. It sets the options on/off for every pattern, and also sets the "Jazz" checkbox in the miscellaneous dialog.

- Style Flipping: convert "a" section to "b" and vice versa.



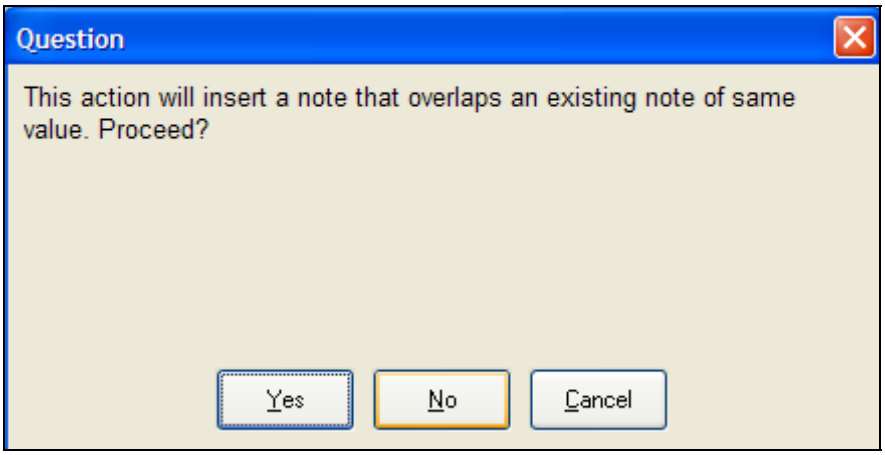
Using the *Style* menu, choose the option to flip patterns for an instrument or the whole style.

- Long Style Name can be stored in the style (up to 32 characters), and this will appear on screen and in the StylePicker.

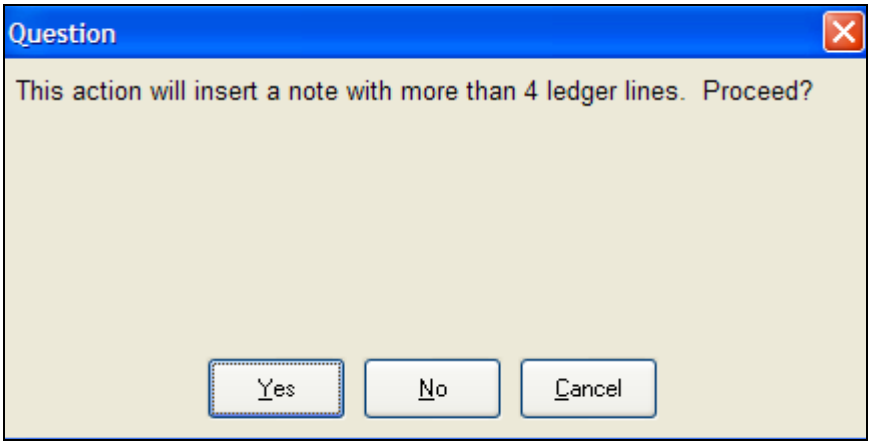
Chapter 11: Notation Window Enhancements

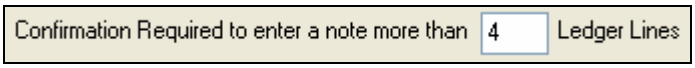
Confirmation Dialog

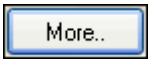
The confirmation dialog is a feature to prevent accidental entry of a duplicate note (same pitch near same time). You will see a confirmation dialog when notes are clicked that are within 1 semitone or 15 ticks (120PPQ).



The confirmation dialog will also prevent accidental entry of a very high or very low note (i.e., with a large # of ledger lines).

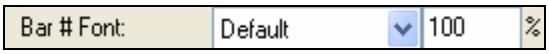




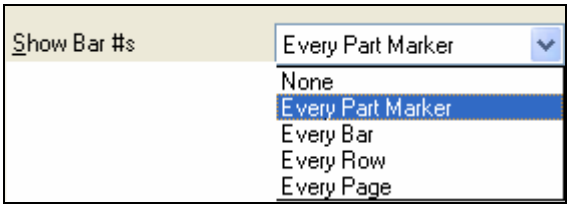


You can set the # of ledger lines in the **Other Notation Options** dialog, which is accessed with the **[More]** button in the **Notation Window Options** dialog.

Bar Number Options

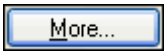


The **Notation Window Options** has a setting for “Bar # Font:” and size on the notation, lead sheet, and printout.

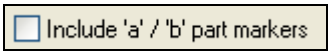


In the **Print Options** dialog there is a setting for “Show Bar #s” to include the bar # on the lead sheet and printout at Every Part Marker, Every Bar, Every Row, or Every Page.

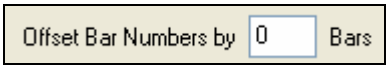
Other Print Options



In the **Margins & Misc. Settings** dialog, which opens with the **[More]** button in the **Print Options** dialog, there is an option to include the substyle name when printing (a, b, etc.).



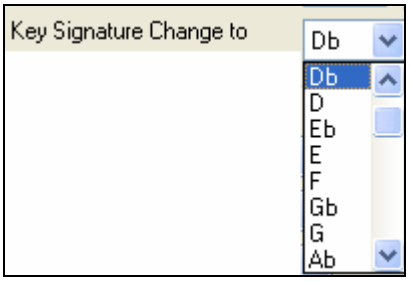
There is also an option to “Offset Bar Numbers by _ Bars” for the printout and lead sheet.



Chapter 12: Other New Features

Change of Key Signature at any Bar.

Previous versions of Band-in-a-Box displayed one key signature for a song. Now you can have multiple keys in the same song with the new key signature shown on notation.



To change key signatures, press **F5** and then select the key signature change that you want. When you do that, you will see the new key signature drawn on the notation at that bar.

The GUI has been enhanced.

There is support for Windows "Themes." Band-in-a-Box will use the current theme that you have selected in the Windows Control Panel to use for Windows and dialogs.

Technical note: The file c:\bb\bbw.exe.manifest controls the support of themes. If you want to remove theme support, you would rename this file.

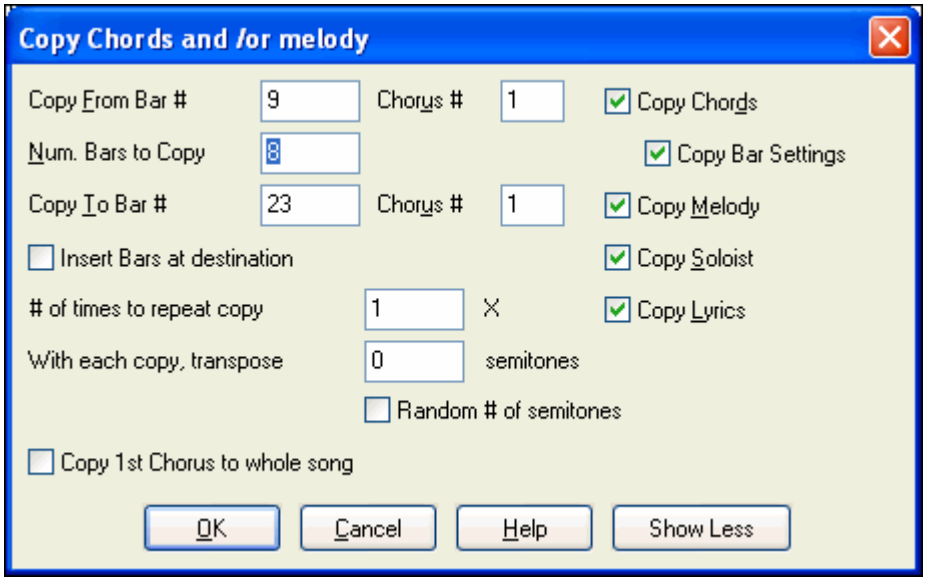
Copying of sections or selections can be done using drag-and-drop, simply drag regions around the chord sheet to quickly rearrange your song. Hold down the control key for finer control about insert/overwrite etc.

For example, if you have an 8-bar section at bar 9:

To copy it to bar 23, and insert the 8 bars at that location drag the bar # and drop it at bar 23.

<**Ctrl**>

To copy it to bar 23, and OVERWRITE the 8 bars at that location hold down the **Ctrl** key, and drag the bar # and drop it at bar 23. In the dialog that appears, just press OK.

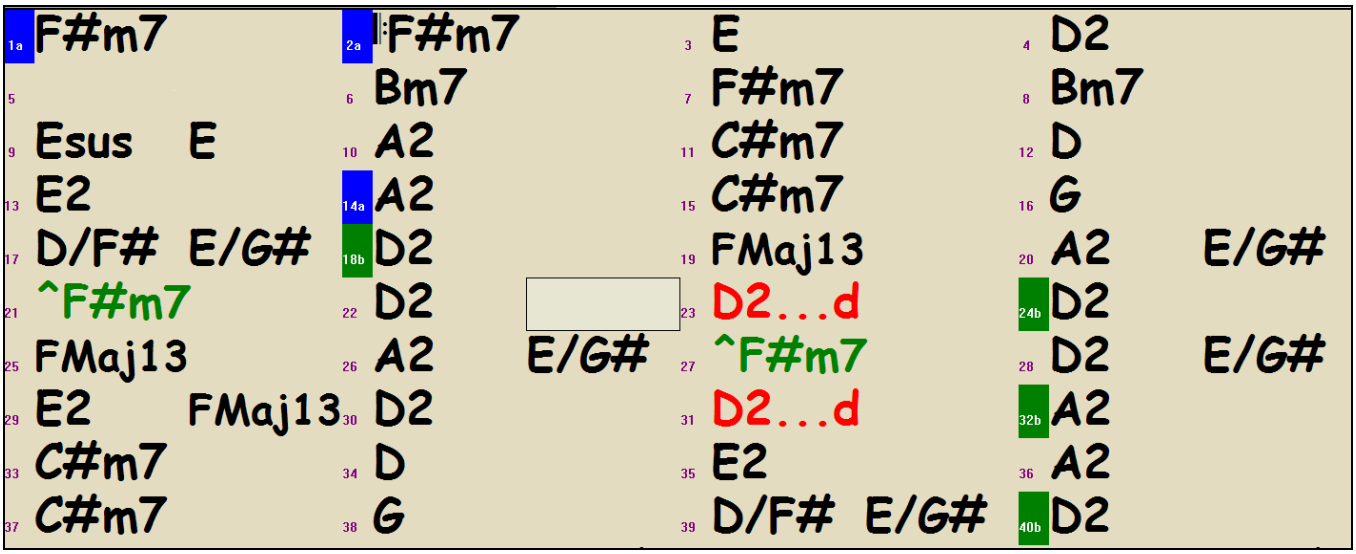


Section Paragraphs.

When you're reading a book, a new section begins on a new line, with space between. Now we've done that for chords too. Whenever a new section occurs (a part marker), we start the new section on a new line, and draw a grey line above to clearly mark the new section. For example, if you have a song with a 7-bar section, followed

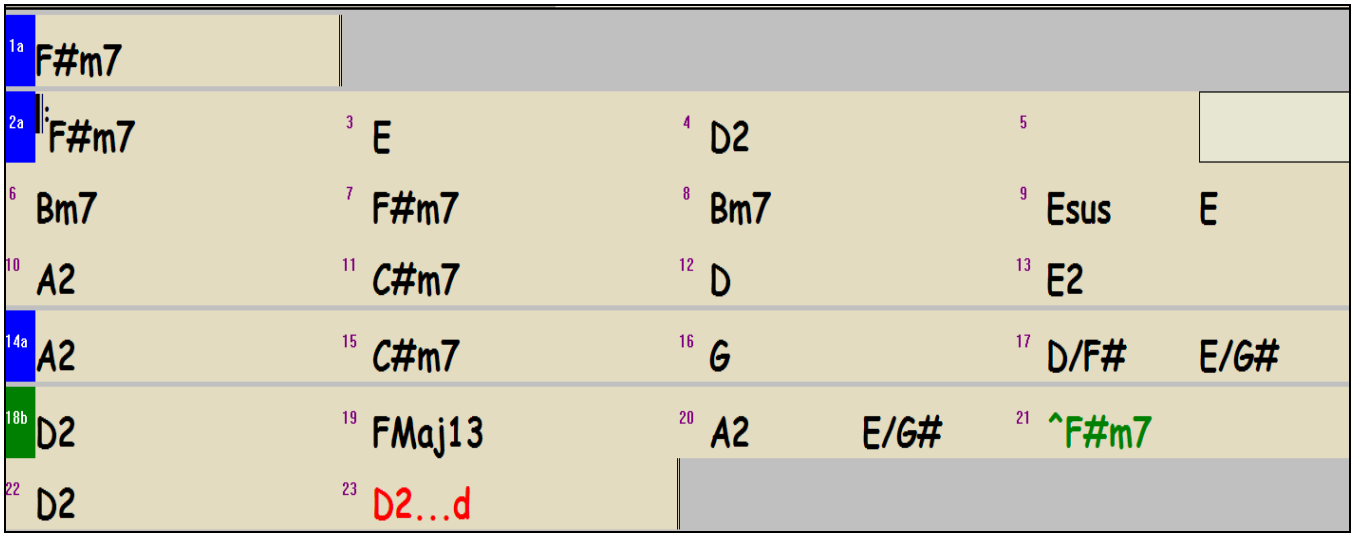
by 8-bar sections, the previous version of Band-in-a-Box wouldn't start the other sections on a new line. The result there was that it was hard to delineate the sections, as if an entire story was told within one paragraph. With the Section Paragraphs feature you'll see all of them on a new line so that the form of the chord sheet is easier to see. The feature is configurable and optional.

Here is a chord sheet *without* the section paragraphs feature. Note that the length of the sections is not apparent, and the overall structure is also not apparent.



Here is the same chord sheet, with the Section Paragraphs feature.

We can quickly see that there is a 1-bar section, followed by 12-bar, 4-bar, and 6-bar sections. It would be a lot easier to learn the tune from this chord sheet than the one above! The reason for this is that songs normally have sections that are in groups of 4 bars, so that any section that isn't a multiple of 4 bars should be identified as an *exception* (as in the 1-bar intro below). As it turned out, the apparent *chaos* in the lead sheet above all resulted from a 1-bar intro, and the rest of the song has a normal structure.

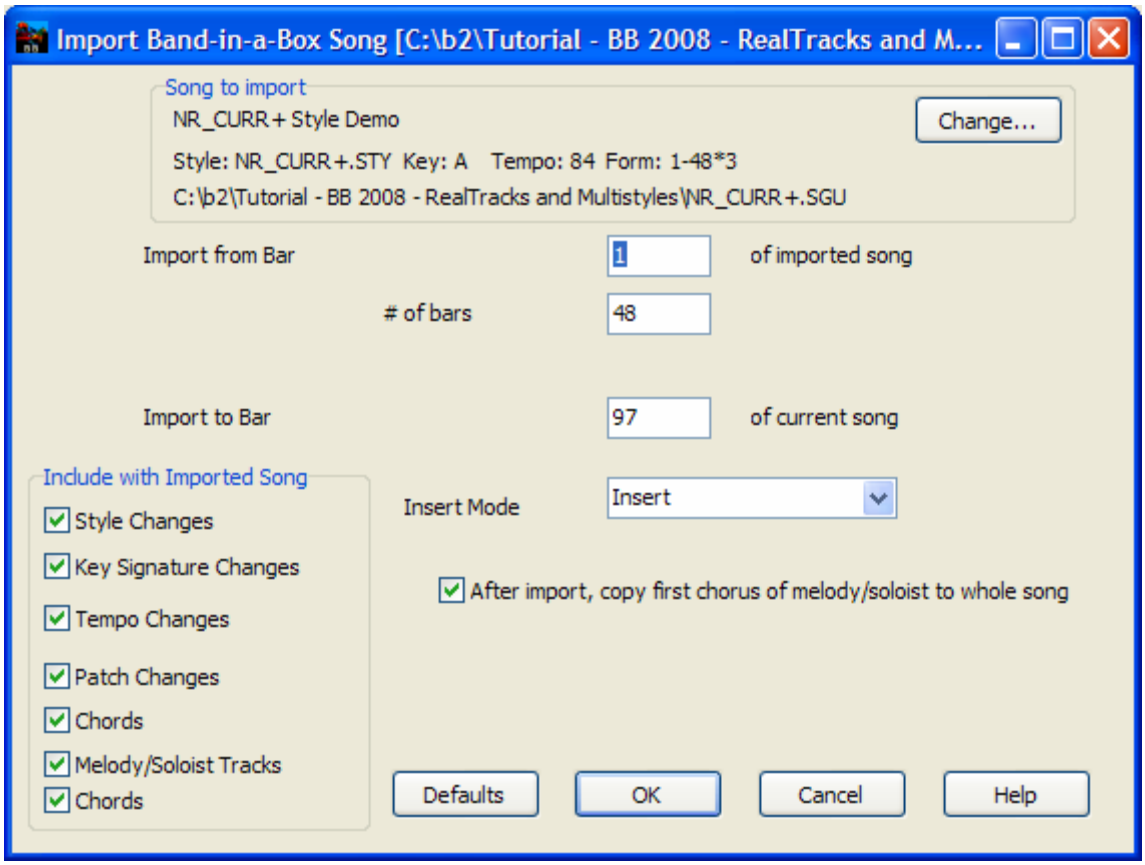


This feature can be turned on/off globally in *Opt.* | *Preferences* **Display Options** dialog by checking the "New line for every section (part marker)" box.

It can be turned off for a specific song, using *Edit* | *Settings (for This Song)* and unchecking "Sections on a new line (for this song)."

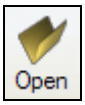
Import Song. Easily import part or all of an existing Band-in-a-Box song to your current song, with options to specify source and destination range, type of information to import (chords, melody, lyrics, etc.) and more.

Choose *File* | *Import Song*.



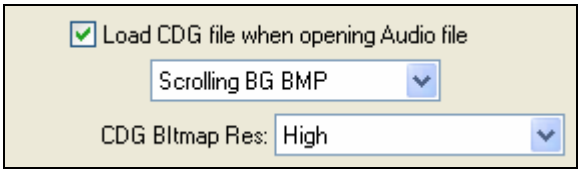
In the **Import Band-in-a-Box Song** dialog, choose the range that you want to import (Import from Bar and # of bars), and the destination bar (Import to Bar). You can also choose which information to import, and the insert mode (insert/overwrite).

Karaoke MP3/CDG Files. Audio Karaoke files are popular using several formats. The most common is CDG format, which includes the lyrics in graphical format on audio CDs. Since the computer user doesn't typically use audio CDs, there is now a format that combines MP3 (containing the music) and CDG (the graphical lyrics). Now you can open up MP3/CDG files inside Band-in-a-Box and see the scrolling lyrics from your Karaoke files. Best of all, you can use the Audio Chord Wizard to figure out the chords as well, making Band-in-a-Box a great choice to play your Karaoke files!

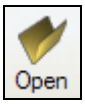


To Open a Karaoke File, use *File | Open*, and find a WAV, MP3, or WMA file that has a same named CDG file in the same folder. Then the Karaoke window will open and display the lyrics.

The BigLyrics window has some options for the Karaoke window.



You can choose to have a background to the window, either a moving one, or fixed picture. These pictures are in the c:\bb\KaraokeBMP folder, and you can add your own BMP or JPG image to that folder.



File |Open now shows and opens all available file types (MGU, WAV, WMA, MP3, MID, KAR, CDG, and CDA). And it remembers your preference, so you can restrict it to a certain file type.

If MySong.MGU is loaded, and a same named audio file (MySong.WMA, MySong.MP3, MySong.WAV, etc.) is present, Band-in-a-Box will open the audio file to the audio track. This allows third parties to make audio

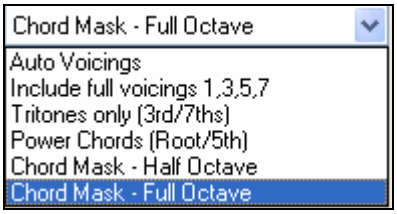
files with chords in them, by making a MySong.MGU and MySong.MP3 pair of files, which will load into Band-in-a-Box, yet will have the audio compressed to take up little disk space. For example, make a teaching set of trombone files for Band-in-a-Box, with audio trombone track, and Band-in-a-Box file with chords, all fitting in a small file size.

Style Wizard enhanced.

The Style Wizard converts a MIDI file to a style. Now you can also use Chord masks so that specific patterns over chords will get added to your style, and they will play exactly as in your MIDI file (just transposed).

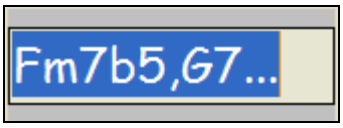
Go to *Styles* | *Style Wizard* to open the **Style Creation Wizard**.

Then click on the **[More]** button to open the **Style Wizard Advanced Settings and Preferences**. Set the "Voicings" to use "Chord Mask - Full Octave" or "Chord Mask – Half Octave."



You wouldn't make a Style Wizard style from scratch using chord masks, because there need to be generic patterns in the style. So you do it as a 2-stage process. First time, make the style using generic patterns (e.g. Voicing type "Auto") and then change voicings to Chord Mask, and add those to the style. As with other Style Wizard features, it is important that the chords and part markers on the chord sheet be very accurate. So if they aren't, you should fix them before generating a style.

Chord Editing (in-place entry/editing).

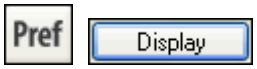


Press **Ctrl+F2** or right click on a chord and an Edit control allows you to see and edit the current chords. This works on the chord sheet, notation, and lead sheet.

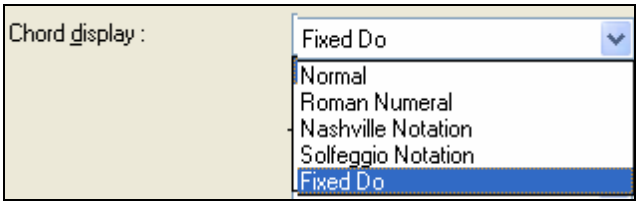
"Fixed Do" Chord Entry and Display.

In Italy and parts of Europe, chords like C7 are always referred to by the Solfeggio name ("Do 7" for C7) regardless of the key signature. Band-in-a-Box now supports entry and display using "Fixed Do" in addition to the Normal, Solfeggio, Nashville, and Roman numeral types.

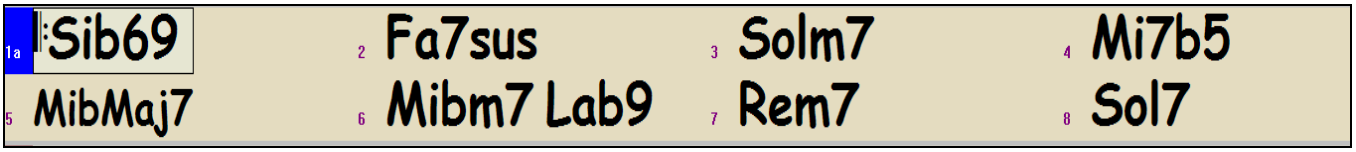
Use the II button on the main screen to toggle between the various chord display modes.



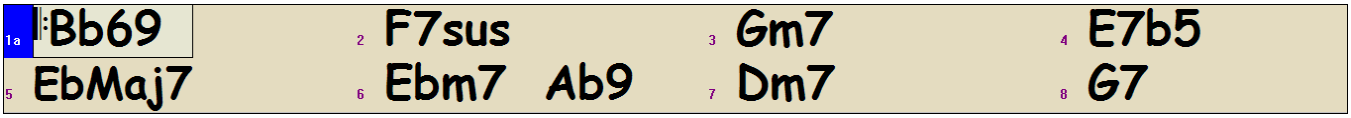
Or go to **Display Options** in Preferences and select Fixed Do for the "Chord display."



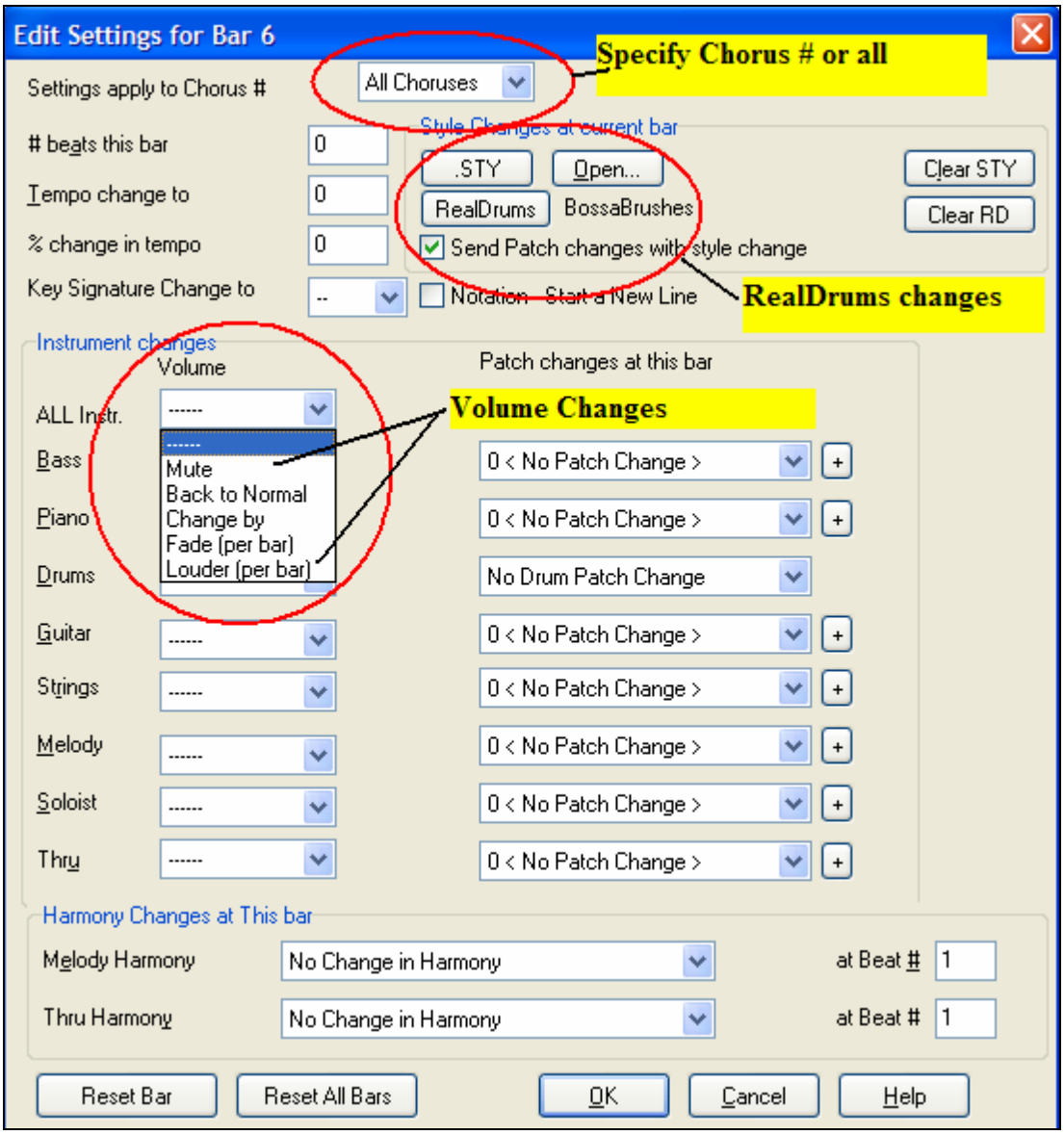
Here is a "Fixed Do" representation (Key of Si b).



This is the "Normal" representation (key of Bb).



Changes at any Bar (F5) Improvements



Specify a chorus # (or all).

Previously, any changes at a bar would apply for every chorus. Now you can specify the change to happen for every chorus and/or a specific chorus. This applies to bar settings like tempo changes, style changes, RealDrums changes, patch changes, volume changes, and harmony changes.

Volume Changes: Mute/Normal/Change By/Fade By/Louder by

First choose an instrument or "All Instr."

Mute will mute the instrument at the bar. This will last until another bar settings turns it back to normal.

Normal restores a normal volume.

Change By will increase/decrease volume by the specified amount.

Fade By will decrease by a certain volume each bar from that point on. Note that there is also an automated fade out function in *Edit | Settings (for This Song)*.

Louder By will increase by a certain volume each bar from that point on.

Other Features.

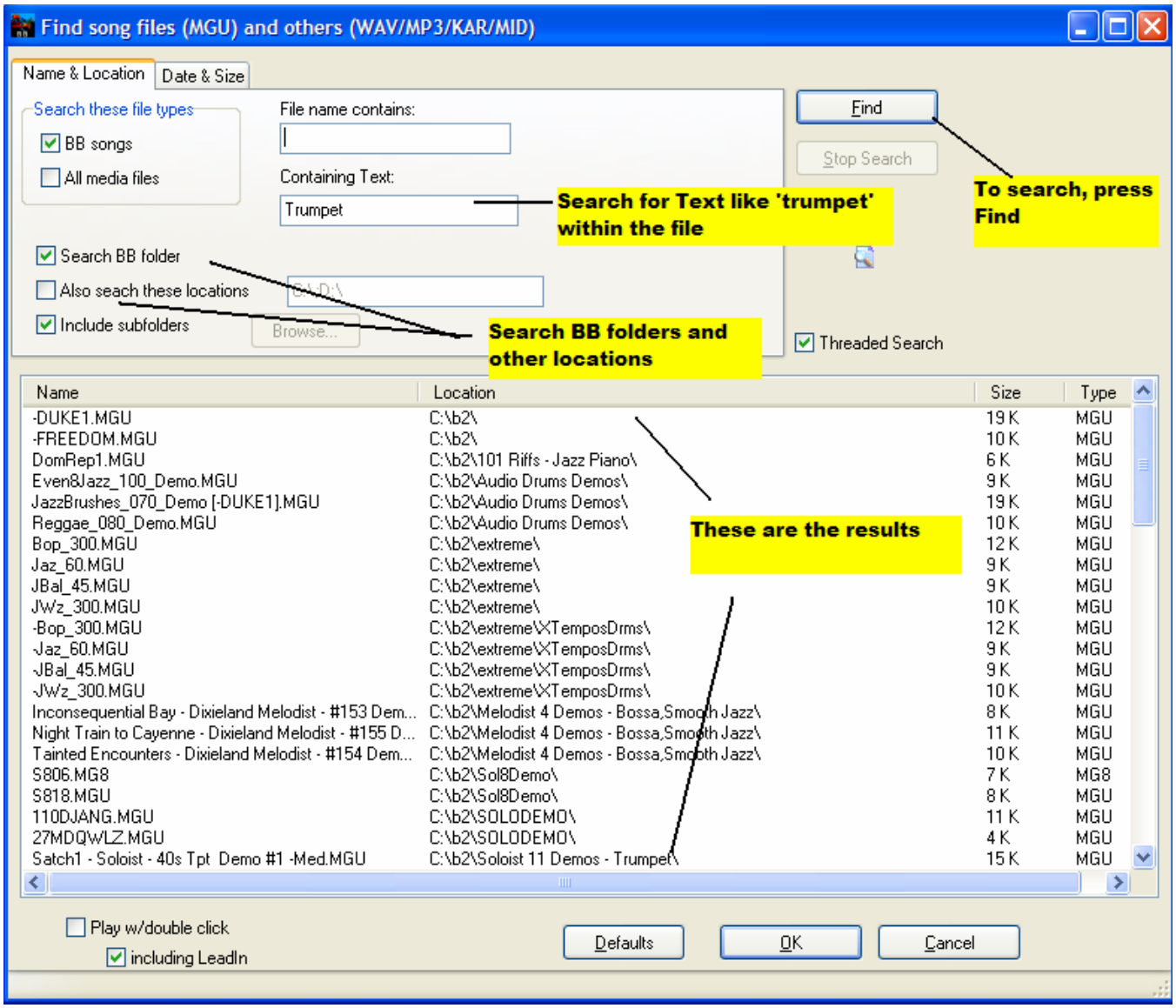
Find File.

So many files, so little time? This feature is a "Swiss Army Knife" that allows you to find a Band-in-a-Box song (or any file that Band-in-a-Box can open), including filtering by words found in the file name or any text in the file. Example uses:

You can:

- Get a listing of all BB songs on your PC with the word "Blues" in the title.
- Get a listing of all BB songs in the BB folder with the word "Reggae" in them. This produces a list of over 50 songs in the MegaPak. So you can quickly choose from them and know that, if you're a reggae lover, you haven't missed out on any BB songs/styles with Reggae. A similar listing for "Blues" reports 454 files.

The listing stays between sessions, so you can then take your time to explore all the songs that Band-in-a-Box offers that match your find term.


Find song files (MGU) and others (WAV/MP3/KAR/MID)
Name & Location
Date & Size
Search these file types
BB songs
All media files
File name contains:
Containing Text:
Trumpet
Search for Text like 'trumpet' within the file
Find
Stop Search
To search, press Find
Search BB folder
Also seach these locations
Include subfolders
Browse...
Search BB folders and other locations
Threaded Search
Name
Location
Size
Type
-DUKE1.MGU C:\b2\ 19 K MGU
-FREEDOM.MGU C:\b2\ 10 K MGU
DomRep1.MGU C:\b2\101 Riffs - Jazz Piano\ 6 K MGU
Even8Jazz_100_Demo.MGU C:\b2\Audio Drums Demos\ 9 K MGU
JazzBrushes_070_Demo [-DUKE1].MGU C:\b2\Audio Drums Demos\ 19 K MGU
Reggae_080_Demo.MGU C:\b2\Audio Drums Demos\ 10 K MGU
Bop_300.MGU C:\b2\extreme\ 12 K MGU
Jaz_60.MGU C:\b2\extreme\ 9 K MGU
JBal_45.MGU C:\b2\extreme\ 9 K MGU
JWz_300.MGU C:\b2\extreme\ 10 K MGU
-Bop_300.MGU C:\b2\extreme\XTemposDrms\ 12 K MGU
-Jaz_60.MGU C:\b2\extreme\XTemposDrms\ 9 K MGU
-JBal_45.MGU C:\b2\extreme\XTemposDrms\ 9 K MGU
-JWz_300.MGU C:\b2\extreme\XTemposDrms\ 10 K MGU
Inconsequential Bay - Dixieland Melodist - #153 Dem... C:\b2\Melodist 4 Demos - Bossa,Smooth Jazz\ 8 K MGU
Night Train to Cayenne - Dixieland Melodist - #155 D... C:\b2\Melodist 4 Demos - Bossa,Smooth Jazz\ 11 K MGU
Tainted Encounters - Dixieland Melodist - #154 Dem... C:\b2\Melodist 4 Demos - Bossa,Smooth Jazz\ 10 K MGU
S806.MG8 C:\b2\Sol8Demo\ 7 K MG8
S818.MGU C:\b2\Sol8Demo\ 8 K MGU
110DJANG.MGU C:\b2\SOLODEMO\ 11 K MGU
27MDQWLZ.MGU C:\b2\SOLODEMO\ 4 K MGU
Satch1 - Soloist - 40s Tpt Demo #1 -Med.MGU C:\b2\Soloist 11 Demos - Trumpet\ 15 K MGU
These are the results
Play w/double click
including LeadIn
Defaults
OK
Cancel

Fade Out Song.

You can now quickly choose a Fadeout ending, just press the **[Fade]** button in **Song Settings**, and Band-in-a-Box will fadeout the last "x" bars of the song (you can specify how many bars). Or customize the fadeout with precise values for each bar.

To use this, press *Edit | Settings (for This Song)* and choose a number of bars to fade out.

Tempo is set based on Style when choosing *File* | *New*. Instead of always resetting to tempo=140, the tempo is now the best tempo for the current style. This function happens automatically.

Improved Enharmonics on slash chords.

For example, a chord like Gm7b5/Db will display correctly using a Db instead of a Gm7b5/C#, since Band-in-a-Box now bases it on a Gm scale.

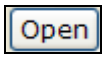
MIDI files now read in **Section Markers** and show up as part markers.

Audition Styles.

In the **style change dialog** (**F5**, and others), you can now **audition** the style that you are considering.

SongPicker dialog – new options added for

-

Find File.
- 

File Open (all types).
-

Favorite song dialog.
-

[->BB] button that changes the current folder to the BB folder.

Audio Batch Render.

Option added to reset the DXi synth after each render. This insures that no audio (stuck notes etc.) from the previous file is retained.

[Cancel] button added for the audio **Batch Rendering**.

On-screen display of file name includes "*" when file has been changed.

Double Lines || drawn on chord sheet at the bar before a part marker.

Audio Playback enhancements.

If you load in an audio song (WAV file, MP3), when the song plays you can:

- change the tempo of the audio to slow/speed up the song.
- press **Ctrl+[-]** for half speed, **Ctrl+[=]** for full speed.
- highlight an area of the Audio Edit window and press **[Play Selected Area]**. This will loop the audio.
- use the *Audio* | *Set Audio Master (Base) Tempo* menu item to insure that tempo stretches are based on correct master tempo.

These features are useful as an aid for transcription.

PG Music Inc.

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+ 800-4PGMUSIC (800-4746-8742)
Fax: toll free in the United States and Canada
1-877-475-1444,
Or 1-250-475-2937 (tolls apply)

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Or 1-250-475-2708 (tolls apply)
E-mail: support@pgmusic.com
Live Internet Chat: www.pgmusic.com

Be sure to visit the FAQ pages at www.pgmusic.com for information about known troubleshooting issues as well as the latest technical support bulletins.

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